EAST BAY EXPRESS

OCTOBER 10-16, 2012

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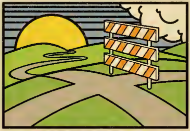

BERKELEY AT A CROSSROADS

How the mayoral race, two council contests, and several ballot measures will shape the city's future.

by Robert Gammon

ELECTION 2012

ENDORSEMENTS PG 8
Vote Kaplan and Yes on Measures B1 and S and Props 34 and 37

REFORMING THREE STRIKES PG 9
Prop 36 would prohibit non-violent offenders from being locked up for life, and would save the state $100 million a year.

THERE'S A HOLE IN THE BUCKET PG 11
Props 30 and 38 would raise billions, but neither would solve California's structural budget crisis.

WHO'LL REPLACE JANE? PG 12
Oakland's District 1 council race has attracted a spate of newcomers.

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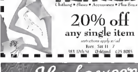
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On the Cover *Illustration by Brian Kelly.*

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NEWS & OPINION

LETTERS

Swan Song, Part I ...

As always, appreciative of your even-handed, thoughtful nurturing of our beloved art. As a critic and one reviewed, I'll miss your insight dearly. That said, I'm juiced for whatever comes next. Thanks for always bigging me up. I owe you an arm or two.

Chinaka Hodge, Oakland

... And II

As your old high school English teacher I'd say, well, it's time to have lunch again! More importantly, however, your contributions to our local culture are going to be missed. As one of Your Devoted Readers, I certainly look forward to your next venture; may it continue to be in the writing world and through your laser-sharp critical lens, your droll sense of humor, crazy compassion in unearthing the most desperate, urgent voices in music. Call me.

Susan Charlip, Berkeley

A Small But Important Step

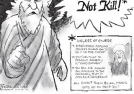
Thanks to the Factory Farming Awareness Coalition for its BART ads encouraging Meatless Monday. Many people go meat-free on Mondays to reduce the number of animals raised on factory farms for the dinner table. On factory farms, animals are packed into warehouses, often with so little space they can't move more than a few inches. If we all went meat-free just one day a week, we could spare more than a billion animals from this fate.

It's also true that eating more meat-free meals is good for our health, which is why Oakland, Pleasanton, West Contra Costa, and Novato school districts are participating in Meatless Mondays.

People who take BART to help conserve resources should know that reducing meat consumption has environmental benefits as well. The UN estimates that the meat, dairy, and egg industries generate a large portion of man-made greenhouse gas emissions.

We can't change the world overnight, but we can do little things that collectively make a big difference. Going meat-free on Mondays is a small but important step that, if we all took, would make a world of change.

Kristie Middleton
Outreach Manager of Farm Animal Protection
The Humane Society of the United States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* YOU FEEL THAT 90 PERCENT ACCURACY IS "GOOD ENOUGH"
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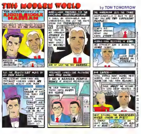
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by TOM TOMORROW
MIDDLE-MAN PREPARES FOR THE IMPENDING CONFRONTATION!
I SHALL BE REASONABLE AND UNDERSTATED, AND LET THE FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES!
AS LONG AS MY OPPONENT SHARES MY RESPECT FOR THE TRUTH, WHAT COULD GO WRONG?
AND AT LAST THE DAY ARRIVES...
THE MODERATOR SETS THE TONE!
WITH DIFFERENT OPINIONS ABOUT, YOU KNOW, STUFF!
MIDDLE-MAN RESPONDS IN KIND!
AND DISAGREE ON OTHERS!
TRUST ME
AND LATER--
NEXT EPISODE: THE UNDECIDED VOTER--FRIEND OR FOE?!
I SIMPLY CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND
I AM SO VERY FICKLE

News 9/26

AC Transit's Long Road

I hope David Armijo proves to be a good general manager. For now I will take Joyce Roy's word for it. The fact that he is interested in meeting with concerned bus riders is an excellent sign. I haven't heard any bus complaining from drivers with whom I speak regularly yet, and I think it will take them a long time to lose their cynicism about AC Transit management. Armijo has a long row to hoe and I don't envy him.

I also don't appreciate waiting more than forty minutes for the #1 bus (a major line) at 7 p.m.

Joan Lichterman, Oakland

Eco Watch 9/26

Sheesh

Sheesh. I remember the share before the Heron Bay development.

What a bunch of jerks. The last one in always wants to close the door to others.

And I am still mad at Heron Bay residents for not allowing anyone using the local Bay Trail to park on "their" streets.

Selfish Heron Bay!

Gary Baker, San Leandro

Eco Watch 9/12

Where's the FDA?

We have a right to know if the food we pay for is genetically modified. Plain and simple.

It's not about trying to destroy businesses or kill big agriculture. Have at it and keep producing what you want, but we as consumers have a right to know what's in the food we buy and eat and feed to our families so we can make informed decisions based on our personal beliefs and preferences. As it stands now, without requiring GMO labeling, we cannot effectively make those decisions and we cannot truly know what's in our food. FDA needs to step up and do its job.

Heather Bashaw, Overland Park, Kansas

Corrections

In our October 3 election story "Questions Swirl Around Tax Measure," we mistakenly reported that the Oakland Zoo only receives public support from the City of Oakland. It also receives financial support from the East Bay Regional Park District and was awarded a $7 million grant for its expansion project from the California Department of Parks and Recreation, as referenced elsewhere in the article.

Due to incompleteness of information provided to the *Express* in our October 3 election story "Three's Company," we incorrectly implied that city council candidate Sean Sullivan has not been endorsed by the Sierra Club. He has.

In our September 26 Legalization Nation column "GDP and Seven Stars Reborn," we misstated the number of open, permitted, storefront dispensaries in Richmond. There are four — not three. ●

Letters Policy

Please provide your full name, address, and daytime phone number, although we will only print your name, city, and affiliation. Send submissions to Letters@EastBayExpress.com or Letters, *East Bay Express*, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

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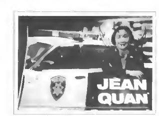


This racially insensitive, defaced photo of the mayor was posted at OPD headquarters.

NEWS

DISTURBING NEW EVIDENCE ABOUT OPD

Court documents reveal that some Oakland police commanders believe cops could avoid shooting suspects if they were allowed to "rough" people up.

By Ali Winston

The official request last week to put the Oakland Police Department in federal receivership grabbed much media attention. But overlooked in the voluminous documents filed by civil rights attorneys John Burris and Jim Chanin was disturbing new evidence that raises significant questions not only as to whether the City of Oakland can stave off receivership, but also whether OPD's dysfunctional culture has changed at all in the past decade or if it's doomed to remain that way for years to come. Among other things, the new evidence shows that department trainers and commanders have been telling city residents, and possibly new police recruits, that Oakland cops shoot suspects because they're no longer allowed to beat them up.

According to a sworn deposition from Jan Gilbrecht, a private investigator who attended an Oakland Citizens Police Academy on May 21 and was hired by Burris and Chanin, OPD Sergeant Randy Pope told attendees of the academy that Oakland was traditionally a "blue-collar kind of town," with a "blue-collar police force that maybe in the past was a little 'hands on' with folks, liked to put their hands on people and maybe got rough sometimes, but did not have that many officer-involved shootings."

According to Gilbrecht, Pope then talked about the federal consent decree that mandated reforms of OPD following The Riders scandal early last decade: "Some city lawyers came in and said, 'We want a white-collar kind of force now'" and the city agreed to the reforms. Pope then added that he believes Oakland cops have become less inclined to use physical force on suspects, resulting in fewer complaints, but that they fire their weapons more frequently at suspects. "What do I know. I just look at the situation and do the math. It's more physical use-of-force complaints but more live bad guys on the other hand, versus the NSA and more shootings on the other hand. What do you choose?" Pope asked the audience.

The Citizens' Police Academy is designed to enlist city residents to help police combat crime in Oakland. Even more alarming is the fact that Sergeant Pope, who lives in the far-East Bay suburb of Oakley, is a firearms and use-of-force instructor at OPD's training academy for new police recruits. His comments to the citizens' academy thus raise concerns as to whether he's repeating the same statements to new police officers, telling them that the federal consent decree leaves them little choice but to shoot suspects. Pope's comments also are in stark contrast to official statements from OPD brass that the consent decree is not hampering police work. "It's telling that they'll say this in a room full of citizens in the Eastmont substation — and it's completely opposite to what they say in court," Chanin said in an interview.

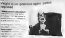
The evidence uncovered by Burris and Chanin also offers insight into the contempt that some OPD line officers have for federal Judge Thelton Henderson, a civil rights hero and Carter administration appointee who oversees the consent decree and was responsible for reforming the state's troubled prison health care system. Henderson will decide whether OPD is put in federal receivership. According to a sworn deposition from Nancy Appel, an associate director of the Anti-Defamation League who also attended the spring 2012 Citizens Police Academy, Sergeant Greg Pruitt told attendees that Judge Henderson "has an agenda," was "in the SLA [Symbionese Liberation Army]" or represented them in court. Both are false assertions.

Racially insensitive, defaced photos of Henderson and Mayor Jean Quan that had been posted at OPD headquarters were also included in the court filings. The one of Henderson depicts him with enlarged eyes and exaggerated lips, and one of the images of Quan shows her standing alone by a police car with dragon wings, horns, and slitted eyes drawn on her by a blue pen. There's also a photo of Quan and former Mayor Ron Dellums that looks as if it was used for a dartboard. The caption stated: "If you thought Ron Dellums was a good Mayor... YOU'LL LOVE JEAN QUAN."

The *Express* previously reported about a flyer posted on a bulletin board at OPD's basement training range in winter 2010. According to police sources, the flyer, which superimposed a picture of a World War II fighter pilot over derogatory language about anti-war liberals, was still posted there until August.

The several hundred pages of evidence filed by Burris and Chanin trace the past ten years of stop-and-start reform, including the department's questionable history of uses of force, lax supervisory failure to rein in problem officers, and poor leadership that have combined to lead OPD astray in a manner unique in American law enforcement. Burris and Chanin contend that OPD's progress on reforms has ground to a halt, and their assertions are supported by reports from the court-appointed monitor that indicate the department has made virtually no progress since January 2010.

Reading through old monitoring reports and court transcripts filed with the receivership motion elicits a sense of *déjà vu*. Judge Henderson's response to a negative monitor's report in February 2005, two years after the consent decree began, reads like his comments from last fall. "I'm not given to overstatement, but I haven't seen anything like this in 25 years. This is so unacceptable that I've been spending any time deciding what I can do to get the attention of the defendant [the city and OPD]. This is contemptuous. I'm so angry at the slap in the face, the ignoring of this decree that my question is who's responsible and how can I get them in front of me?"



This racist, defaced photo of Judge Henderson was at OPD headquarters, too.

As this newspaper noted in January (see "Will OPD End Up in Receivership?" 1/25), OPD's response to Occupy Oakland also is playing a major role in the case, as is the review conducted by Frazier Group, LLC of the October 25 raid on Occupy Oakland and its aftermath. In a sworn deposition in the consent decree case, Thomas Frazier, the former Baltimore police commissioner and longtime member of the San Jose Police Department, heavily criticized OPD's internal affairs and criminal investigation divisions' handling of the incident in which war veteran Scott Olsen was seriously injured by a cop. Portions of Frazier's deposition also reveal that Sergeant Jim Rullamas was the officer in charge of the criminal investigation into Olsen's wounding, which this reporter revealed had been "compromised" in June (see "OPD Screws Up Scott Olsen Investigation?" 6/13). It was Rullamas' decision to prematurely close the criminal probe that led the Frazier Group to voice concern and advise OPD to re-open the file. Frazier also said in his deposition that his staff questioned OPD's accounting of the videotaped beating of Kayvan Sabehgi by OPD Officer Frank Uu on November 2, stating that "Uu's report of the incident and a video of it did not jibe." (See "Cop Identified in Kayvan Sabehgi Beating?" 4/11.)

The evidence filed by Burris and Chanin also confirm and clarify City Administrator Deanna Santana's attempts to hide many of the Frazier report's key revelations, including the botched Olsen case (see "Santana Tried to Alter Damning Report," 9/19). Frazier's deposition includes a succinct response to questions about Santana's requests to have the report sent to her personal email in Microsoft Word format so that she could easily redact key portions of it.

"Chanin: Did she want to remove your findings?

Frazier: Yes."

The new evidence also confirms that former Police Chief Anthony Batts did nothing to reform the department and meet the requirements of the consent decree, also known as the Negotiated Settlement Agreement, or the NSA. In a deposition, current Police Chief Howard Jordan said Batts "didn't understand the tenets of the NSA, the history," and that the reforms were "too much for him to absorb." OPD's stagnation on reform efforts began during Batts' tenure, which lasted from 2009 to 2011.

Portions of Frazier's deposition also indicate that members of Jordan's own command staff do not have confidence in the integrity of OPD's internal affairs or criminal investigations division when it comes to probing allegations of police officer misconduct. "I have little faith that IA can get it right and have even less faith that CID will do the case right. The CID investigation would be a waste of time," a commander who court documents identify as one of Jordan's deputy chiefs told one of Frazier's staffers. Jordan's deposition revealed that he was unaware of the unrest among his ranking subordinates over shoddy internal investigations into incidents such as the October 25 raid on Occupy Oakland and Scott Olsen's wounding.

In his deposition, Jordan also acknowledged the existing problems concerning police officers' use of lethal force. "There is a propensity in our organization for officers to point their firearms in cases when it's not necessary," said Jordan. However, the chief also claimed that scrutinizing uses of force "takes away from their [supervisors'] ability to supervise their officers."

Last week, Oakland police union attorney Michael Rains told the *Oakland Tribune* that the department's rank-and-file wasn't necessarily opposed to receivership in light of the "absolute lack of meaningful leadership in the department for the last decade," including from Chief Jordan. The city has until November 8 to respond to Burris and Chanin's receivership motion in court. The receivership hearing is scheduled for December 13. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

LEGALIZATION NATION

WILL POT COME UP IN THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES?

Not likely, says Martin A. Lee, author of the new book *Smoke Signals: A Social History of Marijuana.*

By David Downs

Author/historian Martin A. Lee will join us on Saturday, October 13 at 1:30 p.m. at Oaksterdam University (1600 Broadway, Oakland) to talk about his new book *Smoke Signals: A Social History of Marijuana — Medical, Recreational and Scientific.* The 58-year-old resident of Healdsburg is also the co-founder of ProjectCBD.org, which examines the medicinal uses of cannabidiol. He released his new nonfiction book in August on major imprint Scribner (a division of Simon & Schuster) and it's an essential, vital historical reference tome that should stay within arm's reach of any weed activist.

With writing résumé that includes *Acid Dreams: The Complete Social History of LSD*, Lee weaves a rich tapestry of pot history in his new book, spanning millennia, challenging dogma, and rewarding the curious reader as well as the devout reformer. He spoke with us via phone about the book, the presidential race, the crackdown, and Los Angeles. Here's an edited version of our conversation.

Legalization Nation: President Obama and Mitt Romney debated in Colorado, a state that could legalize marijuana for the first time in about 75 years this November. It's historic, but the issue didn't come up. Do you think the issue will come up in the next two presidential debates?

Lee: I doubt it. There's some great ironies there. The candidates will basically agree if it does. I think there's a lot to win if they take a bold stance on this, but I don't think they would. Obama's going to have to lean in the opposite direction. Everyone knows he was a stoner as a teenager. That makes law enforcement nationally suspicious.

Legalization Nation: He has to be the model minority?

Lee: He has to almost bend over backward to tell everybody, particularly law enforcement, that no, no, he's not a stoner. He's left his past and they shouldn't worry about that. Even a hint of moving toward legalization or better policies and it would be, "Oh, look at that guy. Stoner is doing just what we expected." It's just the opposite of Nixon going to China. Obama can never go there. He's already on the suspect list.

Legalization Nation: Are you at all hopeful about the 2012 election cycle?

Lee: It'll be interesting to see what happens in Washington and Colorado. I suspect those initiatives will pass and the response by the federal government will be quite interesting. I don't know what they'll do.

Legalization Nation: As a historian, what's your view of the new year-old crackdown on medical marijuana in California and elsewhere?

Lee: I think it's futile. It's not going to stop what's going on. It's not going to stop the spreading of this movement across the states. Marijuana is very popular. It's incredibly mainstream at this point. It's not going to go away. So the government can do whatever it's going to do; it's not going to stop you and me from smoking a joint if we want to, whether [we're] medical card holders or not. I think that's basically the truth.

Legalization Nation: History paints this picture of the drug war as theater. The Federal Bureau of Narcotics started with about 80 men for a country 3,000 miles wide. Is it theater?

Lee: It's not about stopping drugs. It seems to be about something else, and what they say it is shifts from time to time. It's a very useful tool for social control to have these drug laws that they can enforce capriciously and unevenly where you can target whomever you want to target. For law enforcement — who has the most invested in continuing the drug war — it's been a gravy train.

Legalization Nation: *Smoke Signals* opens with an ex-cop who travels America on horseback evangelizing for the drug war's end. He's a member of the group Law Enforcement Against Prohibition. Do you think L.E.A.P. will be historically significant?

Lee: Well, it reminds me of Vietnam Veterans Against the War in the 1960s and 1970s. ... It's not just a longhair or a stoner saying this is wrong. It's a cop. It gives the person immediate credibility, particularly with an audience who may not be enamored of Obama. How it's going to play out in the future of prohibition is impossible to say. We'd like to think we're in the ending phases of it.

Legalization Nation: Los Angeles banned pot shops only to see its citizens gather 50,000 signatures in nine days to repeal the ban. Are you optimistic?

Lee: It's the same crazy story. The city authorities never seem to be able to respond in any kind of sensible way, because, in part, they don't even want to make any kind of sensible regulations. That would be furthering the rights of medical marijuana patients, and they're so hung up on the reefer madness bullshit. ... Where's the harm? That's the main point. When we talk about the tumultuous situation in Los Angeles, what are they upset about in terms of actual harm?

Legalization Nation: The term "chaos" is bandied about quite liberally.

Lee: "Chaos" is trying to drive in Los Angeles if you're not from there. That's chaos.

Legalization Nation: How does this book add to cannabis history?

Lee: There hasn't been a really full-fledged social history with a sweeping perspective. Larry Sloman's *Reefer Madness* was written in the Seventies. There's quite a gap there and obviously a lot has happened. What led to Prop 215 passing, and what's gone on since 215 has really been told piecemeal. ... I think it'll stand the test of time. It deserves a place on the shelf right next to Dan Baum's *Smoke and Mirrors* and *Marijuana Conviction* by Bonnie and Charles Whitebread. ●

David.Downs@gmail.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

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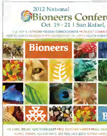
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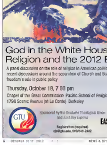
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ENDORSEMENTS

VOTE KAPLAN AND YES ON MEASURES B1 AND S AND PROPS 34 AND 37

Also, we have dual endorsements in Oakland City Council districts 3 and 5, and we urge you to vote "no" on Measure A1.

The Oakland City Council At Large race may be one of the easiest endorsements we make this year. We think incumbent **Rebecca Kaplan** is one of the best councilmembers in the East Bay, and we strongly endorse her. We agree with her progressive ideals, and fully support her longtime commitment to and advocacy for smart growth, also known as transit-oriented development. We also respect the fact that she takes a thoughtful, pragmatic approach to decision making and examines the facts behind controversial issues like curfews and gang injunctions in Oakland.

We also strongly urge voters not to cast their ballots for Councilman Ignacio De La Fuente. Although he has been a good public servant for many years, we find his repeated public criticisms of Kaplan and Mayor Jean Quan and his hypocritical stances on numerous issues to be quite troubling. For example, he's touting himself this fall as the "tough-on-crime" candidate while ignoring the fact that he was the prime backer of the police layoffs in 2010. We also disagree with his full-throated advocacy for a youth curfew in the city.

Our choices for candidates in Oakland's districts 3 and 5 contests are less clear-cut. In District 3 (West Oakland/Downtown), there are several good candidates in the race, and we think that most of them would become solid members of the city council. As a result, we're endorsing three candidates, in no particular order: **Sean Sullivan**, **Alex Miller-Cole**, and **Lynette Gibson McElhaney**.

We respect the fact that Sullivan has taken an active role over the years to make District 3 a better place to live by serving on a number of local committees and organizations. Our only reservation about him are his ties to De La Fuente, but if Kaplan wins, then we think Sullivan would make a fine, independent addition to the council. Miller-Cole's advocacy for improving Oakland's economy and making the city more business friendly also impresses us, and we respect the fact that he has received the endorsement of outgoing councilwoman Nancy Nadel. As for Gibson-McElhaney, we think the nonprofit executive is smart and impressive, and we appreciate that she's placed restoring the public's trust in government at the top of her agenda.

District 5 (Fruitvale/Glenview), in contrast to District 3, features three leading candidates who all have flaws. We're endorsing two of them, in no particular order: **Mario Juarez** and **Shelly Garza**. We agree with the progressive Juarez on a wide range of issues, but we're still bothered by his numerous legal troubles over the years. As for Garza, we respect her work with Fruitvale's fleet of mobile food trucks, and we're pleased that she also opposes a youth curfew, but we're concerned about her ties to De La Fuente, and are worried that she would side with him on issues if he were to defeat Kaplan. Finally, we're urging voters not to cast their ballots for Noel Gallo, the third major candidate in the race. Not only is the moderate Gallo close to De La Fuente, but he also strongly supports curfews and gang injunctions. We also disagreed with many of the positions he took over the years on the Oakland school board — including his advocacy for the district to remain under state control.

In Berkeley, we support **Measure S**, the so-called sit/lie ordinance. As noted in last week's *Express* cover story, Measure S is a reasonable proposal for the city and is not the radical idea that opponents are making it out to be. Other liberal cities like Santa Cruz and Santa Monica have similar laws, and they've not resulted in the "criminalization" of the homeless. And in Berkeley, we think Measure S will help small retailers deal with the longstanding problem of street people setting up camp in front of their businesses and refusing to leave.

We also endorse **Measure B1** for Alameda County. Although we often oppose sales tax measures because they're regressive and disproportionately impact low-income residents, we're supporting this half-cent sales tax increase because of the essential services it will fund, including hundreds of millions of dollars for AC Transit. We also like that Measure B1 will help finance smart-growth projects in Oakland and Berkeley.

We're urging "no" votes, however, on Measure A1, a countywide parcel tax that would benefit the Oakland Zoo. The zoo already receives plenty of taxpayer funding, and we believe the organization needs to become more self-sufficient. We're also concerned that the loosely worded measure would allow the zoo to spend the tax funds on its controversial expansion plans, rather than on caring for its animals. And we're troubled by the fact that the zoo spent its own money on a glossy mailer sent to residents at a time when it's claiming to need more taxpayer funds.

On the statewide ballot, we strongly endorse Propositions 34 and 37. **Prop 34** would do away with California's costly death penalty, thereby saving the state about $180 million a year. Prop 34 would replace the sentence of death with life without possibility of parole, and thus would also eliminate the risk of an innocent inmate being executed.

Prop 37, meanwhile, would require that food companies label products made with genetically modified organisms, or GMOs. We disagree with opponents who claim that the proposed law is too burdensome, and we think that consumers deserve to know what's in the food they buy and eat — particularly in light of scientific studies that are increasingly raising health and environmental concerns about GMOs. Also, we think that it's ridiculous that food manufacturers can still claim in 2012 that products made from GMOS are "natural." ■

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

ELECTION 2012

REFORMING THREE STRIKES

Prop 36 would prohibit non-violent offenders from being locked up for life and would save the state $100 million a year

By Joaquin Palomino

Throughout the 1990s, tough-on-crime laws were extremely popular in California. Numerous pieces of legislation lengthened prison terms for many crimes, and the War on Drugs locked up an unprecedented number of small time criminals. However, it was California's Three Strikes law — approved by an overwhelming majority of voters in 1994 — that exemplified the tough-on-crime mindset of the decade.

The statute was one of the first of its kind, and while 24 other states have enacted similar laws, California continues to have arguably the harshest three-strikes policy. What sets California apart is that it allows offenders to be sentenced to life in prison even if their third offense, or strike, is not violent. This aspect of the law has resulted in some 4,000 low-level offenders and drug users being locked up for life. In addition, about 1,300 convicts with no history of violence against people are also serving life terms. Housing these prisoners will end up costing the state billions of dollars in the coming decades.

If approved, Proposition 36 would place California's three-strikes policy more closely in line with that of other states. It would mandate that life sentences only be imposed when the third offense is violent or serious, unless the defendant had previously been convicted of an extremely violent crime such as murder or rape. Minor repeat offenders would receive double the normal sentence for their third conviction rather than life behind bars. In addition, the thousands of non-violent third-strike offenders currently serving life terms could petition for resentencing.

These changes could save the state $100 million a year, according to the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. "We're in the midst of a dual crisis: We have overflowing prisons and an underfunded state," said Dan Newman, a strategist for the Yes on 36 Campaign. "Prop 36 would address both of these problems through a commonsense, modest reform."

Prop 36 isn't the first attempt to change three strikes in California. Since it was enacted in 1994, twelve separate bills in the legislature have attempted to reform the law, yet all failed to gather the necessary support. The biggest opposition to change has come from law-enforcement agencies, which have historically united against any proposed reform to three strikes. But with Prop 36, the law-enforcement community is somewhat divided.

Forty California prosecutors, judges, and police officials endorse Prop 36, including Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley, a Republican. In 2009, Cooley sent more people to death row than the entire state of Texas did, and he doles out one of the highest numbers of life sentences to third-strike offenders. In short, Cooley has a reputation for being tough on crime, but he also has a third-strike policy that's nearly identical to Prop 36. "We're not seeking life terms for petty theft with a prior or two-bit forgery, or possession of drugs," Cooley said. "We focus on the violent criminals — saving our overcrowded state prison cells for those that truly deserve it."

By limiting his prosecutorial scope, Cooley has also achieved one of the state's highest conviction rates for third strikes. Crime has also fallen to historic lows in his county. "We believe this is primarily attributable to our three-strikes policy," he said, "which allows us to effectively incarcerate those that need to be incarcerated."

District attorneys in California have discretion in how they use three strikes. As a result, there is a huge disparity in how the law is enforced. Non-violent third-strike offenders have been sentenced to life in prison in some counties, while petty criminals have received much lighter sentences in other counties for the same types of offenses.

Although Cooley's success has prompted a handful of other counties to implement similar practices, including Santa Clara and San Francisco, most prosecutors aren't eagerly following his lead. The California District Attorney's Association likes the discretion that the law affords to prosecutors, and for this reason it opposes Prop 36. "Cooley has chosen his policy," said Tom Toller, director of legal research for the association and one of the biggest opponents of Prop 36, "but there are 57 other elected DAs, and our association wants to preserve their discretion."

Toller noted that under the law prosecutors can eliminate a strike fairly easily at trial, and a judge can dismiss a strike in the interest of justice. As such, Toller argued that only the most dangerous third-strike offenders currently receive life sentences. "Prosecutors are focusing only on defendants whose criminal histories make a life sentence appropriate — people who have shown the inability to rehabilitate and end a life of crime," Toller contended.

State statistics show that many prosecutors have been using the Three Strikes law more cautiously in recent years. For example, 83 percent of all three-strikes inmates were imprisoned before 2004, and only 90 non-violent third-strike offenders have been sentenced to life over the past three years in the state. This comes in stark contrast to the early days of the law. Between 1994 and 1998, more than 2,100 inmates received life sentences for drug possession or property crimes alone, according to a National Institute of Justice study.

According to a recent poll, Prop 36 appears to have strong public support. The poll, conducted by the University of Southern California and the *Los Angeles Times*, showed that 66 percent of likely voters said they will vote in favor of Prop 36, while only 20 percent opposed it. But this doesn't mean it will breeze into law. In 2004, a similar proposition showed an equally strong lead, but was defeated by an eleventh-hour political advertising campaign headed by then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and supported by nearly every law-enforcement leader in the state — including Cooley.

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ELECTION 2012

ALAMEDA COUNCIL UP FOR GRABS

Voters may select a new majority for the five-member council

By Steven Tavares

Alameda Point is still a potential gold mine. Although the city's past attempts to redevelop the former Naval Air Station have failed, the 1,500 acres on the northwest side of Alameda not only could transform the island city, but also the entire East Bay with an influx of jobs and new housing and business developments that would feature some of most stunning views in the region. What the City of Alameda ultimately does with Alameda Point will have major ramifications for the city, but how it moves forward with plans to develop it will rest in the hands of new councilmembers elected this fall.

The November election in fact could replace a majority of the five-member council. Current Councilman Doug deHaan is termed out and Councilwoman Beverly Johnson chose not to run for re-election after Governor Jerry Brown appointed her to be deputy director of the state's Office of Administrative Law. However, there is an added wrinkle to this fall's council race. If Alameda Vice Mayor Rob Bonta wins election to the Assembly, the third-place finisher in the council contest will automatically take his seat.

The race for council is a strong field and includes three attorneys, a former councilman, and one current health care district board director. And while the differences among the candidates' positions on Alameda Point are mostly nuanced, all are keenly aware that Alamedans have been burned more than once when it comes to implementing a suitable blueprint for the property. "We've learned a lot from the past," said candidate Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, who is also a member of the city's planning commission. Previous attempts to hand the future of Alameda Point to a master developer have been disastrous, she noted.

In fact, the bad taste from the city's recent experience with master developer SunCal still lingers on the island. The episode prompted a substantial amount of disharmony and resulted in criticism that the current council majority owes its political good fortune to the developer. For this reason, some candidates like Stewart Chen, a member of the Alameda Healthcare District Board of Directors, believes the next council needs a greater sense of self-determination when it comes to Alameda Point. "The citizens should have control," he said. "We need to make sure it's our plan."

Jane Sullwold, an attorney and current president of the city's golf commission, agrees. "About master developers. Been there, done that," she said. "Parcel by parcel, we need to be our own master developer so we can take charge and not have what some company — in it for profit motive — wants."

If finding a suitable direction for developing Alameda Point has been a vexing problem over the years, so has cleaning up the toxic mix of chemicals dumped by the Navy there. While the cleanup effort has made significant strides, there is still uncertainty over what the next developer might find when the Navy officially hands over the land to the city sometime at the end of this year. For that reason, every candidate in the race contends that gaining assurances from the Navy that Alameda Point is environmentally stable must be a top priority. Candidate Gerard Valbuena Dusnak, a firefighter for the state, goes further by calling for the Navy to be held liable in perpetuity for any toxic waste found on Alameda Point in the future.

The issue that divides the candidates the most, however, is public-employee pensions. Tony Daysog, an ex-councilman who ran unsuccessfully for mayor two years ago, has made pension reform one of the pillars of his campaign. Public safety employees will need to pay more toward their pension benefits, he said, and the city will have to institute a furlough program for public employees for the next two years. Daysog also advocates setting aside a portion of any new revenue streams to pay down the city's unfunded pension liabilities.

Daysog, however, does not have the toughest stance on public-employee benefits. Last week, Sullwold raised the possibility of the city using "nuclear options" sometime in the future when it came to negotiating with public workers. "We can, if we get to the point of real desperation, declare a state of financial emergency, and that would require that our unions come back to the bargaining table even if they are in the middle of their contract," Sullwold said.

By contrast, Jeff Cambra, a former assistant city attorney in Hayward for eight years, contends that the pension issue is overwrought with hyperbole. He pointed out that the city has balanced its budget every year during the recession, and he believes the pension issue needs further study. "I happen to know personally that nobody is interested in bankrupting the city," said Cambra of public-employee unions. "The concept of fiscal emergency is not available to us."

The Alameda firefighter's union, which traditionally has been the most influential special interest on the island and which would be impacted greatly by pension reform, has endorsed Ashcraft, Cambra, and Chen.

Also on the ballot is Measure D, a proposed amendment to the city charter that would close a controversial loophole that allowed the council to consider swapping parkland in exchange for property of equal value. The proposed trade of the Mif Albright golf course to developer Ron Cowan was ultimately not approved by the council earlier this year, yet it sparked criticism from those who believe the council was overstepping its authority. Alameda's charter calls for any sale of public parkland to be put to a vote of the people. However, a section of the law allows for a land swap, which, until last year, was never used.

Residents successfully gathered more than 10,000 signatures to place the closing of the charter loophole on the ballot to avert its possible use in the future. And, at this point, it's difficult to find anyone who opposes Measure D. "We all value the importance of parks," noted Daysog, "but it only underscores there's a disconnect with the people and city hall." ●

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ELECTION 2012

THERE'S A HOLE IN THE BUCKET

Props 30 and 38 would raise billions, but neither would solve California's structural budget crisis

By Darwin BondGraham

Propositions 30 and 38 are two of the most progressive tax measures proposed in California in recent memory. Each would raise billions of dollars by raising taxes on the rich at higher rates than on middle- and low-income residents. Both of these so-called "millionaire's taxes" also propose to dedicate much of the money they raise on education, which has suffered severe cuts in recent years. But, according to experts, neither measure will adequately address California's structural budget crisis — although Prop 30 may do more to help solve that problem than Prop 38.

The two measures, in fact, diverge in very important ways. To understand why requires a bit of history. The state's fiscal health has been in decline since voters approved Prop 13 in 1978 — the famous measure that dramatically cut property taxes and limited the legislature's ability to enact new taxes, thereby setting in motion a huge and sustained drop in revenue for state and local governments. California's budget process was made worse in the decades afterward by needlessly complex ballot measures. "Over the years, the system has grown more tortuous, warped by frequent voter-approved initiatives that increased or earmarked spending," explained veteran political journalist Jerry Roberts in a recent essay, describing the state's fiscal crisis that Governor Jerry Brown's favored tax measure — Prop 30 — is designed to alleviate.

Jerry Brown

According to the nonpartisan California Legislative Analyst's Office, voters have approved eighteen statewide ballot propositions concerning taxes since 1978, each of them a form of "ballot box budgeting," as critics of the process call it. Together, these propositions, whether they raised or lowered taxes, have cumulatively worsened the structural budget crisis by limiting how the state can raise money and what it can be spent on. None of these measures was able to repair the proverbial hole in the bucket — the huge loss in revenues that has grown over time and exploded during recessions, mostly due to the permanent slashing of property taxes.

Which brings us back to props 30 and 38. Are they solutions? The short answer is no. And one of the propositions — 38 — arguably represents another example of ballot box budgeting.

Prop 30 would implement three new tax brackets that apply only to the wealthiest of California residents, beginning with a 10.3 percent rate for individuals and couples making $250,000 and $500,000 respectively, and topping out with a rate of 12.3 percent for individuals making $500,000 and couples raking in more than $1 million. Prop 30 also includes a sales tax increase of a quarter cent that will disproportionately impact low and middle income earners. Nonetheless, it's still a progressive tax proposal. The income tax hikes for the wealthy will last for seven years, while the sales tax expires in four years.

If Prop 30 doesn't pass, $4.8 billion in mandatory "trigger cuts" will take effect on January 1, further harming K-12 and higher education, and slashing funds for local police, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the state Department of Fish and Game, state parks, and other programs.

Molly Munger

Backed by wealthy Southern California lawyer Molly Munger, Prop 38 would also implement a significant tax hike on high income earners through increases in state income tax rates as high as 2.2 percent above the current 11.5 percent that targets single filers who make $2.5 million and up. While Prop 38 doesn't propose a sales tax increase, it does gently squeeze the middle and working classes with increases in their income tax rates, but this rise is slightly less than the 1.9 to 2.2 percent that earners in the quarter-million dollar and above club will face. Thus, on balance, it's also a progressive tax proposal.

Both are also equitable measures if you consider the massive gains in income by the wealthiest Californians over the past two decades. Data from the Franchise Tax Board shows that the state's top 1 percent saw their incomes rise by 50 percent while the bottom 20 percent suffered a decline of 20 percent in income.

But the biggest difference between the two measures is what they would do with the tax money they raise. Prop 30 would drop an estimated $6 billion annually into the state's general fund, where it could also be used to help shore up California's social safety net and safeguard state parks. However, because of a previous ballot-box-budgeting measure approved by voters — Prop 98 — roughly half of the money raised by Prop 30 must be dedicated to K-12 education.

By contrast, money raised through Prop 38 would not go to the general fund, and so the state would not be able to use it to fund social service programs and parks. Instead, all of the revenues would be deposited into a newly created California Education Trust Fund. Most of the money in this fund would go to K-12 education, with about 30 percent set aside to repay state debt, much of which has been incurred by selling bonds to build school infrastructure. Because Prop 38 includes a clause that denies legislators the ability to count its funding of K-12 education as part of Prop 98's mandate, this essentially means that if Prop 38 passes, we will have significantly increased the overall share of state dollars going to K-12 education. But Prop 38 would do little to help deal with the overall budget crunch — except to alleviate some payments on state debt — because no money would go into the general fund. Prop 38 also would not help the state avoid the trigger cuts set to take effect on January 1, except to safeguard K-12 education funding.

ELECTION 2012

A Yes on 38 ad justifies this by arguing that "Sacramento politicians have chopped away funds for our schools," and suggests that the way to fix this is to put a firewall between legislators and new tax dollars for education. But these sorts of limitations on how various special pots of tax dollars can be spent, like Prop 98, have become as much a part of California's government crisis as the overall lack of revenue.

There are other reasons to fret over these progressive tax measures designed to support education. Darien Shanske, a professor at the UC Hastings College of Law, said a major shortcoming of both is that the projected budget deficit next year is growing. "For this budget cycle [Prop 30] is supposed to raise about $8.5 billion. That's pretty good because the deficit at the time Prop 30 was proposed was projected to be about $9 billion," Shanske explained. "So we had a deficit of $9 billion projected for next year and hoped to raise $8.5 billion; that looks pretty good. But the first problem is that the deficit is now already predicted to be $16 billion, and so in no way will it be able to close the deficit even if Prop 30 raised as much as initially projected."

"It's also worth noting that the cuts to education and social services over the last four years is estimated to be about $56 billion," Shanske continued, "and none of that money is proposed to come back." In this sense, both propositions would at best only stabilize education budgets, greatly reduced as they are.

The California Budget Project, a nonpartisan organization well-known for its rigorous analysis of state policy issues, holds a more optimistic view and has even taken the rare step of endorsing Prop 30. "Prop 30 would raise much needed revenues as part of a balanced approach to closing state budget gap over the long haul," said the CBP's senior policy analyst Jonathan Kaplan. While the organization supports Prop 30, Kaplan clarified that it's taking a neutral position on Prop 38.

Only one of the measures can pass, however. If both receive more than 50 percent of the vote, the one with more total votes cancels out the other. ●

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ELECTION 2012

WHO'LL REPLACE JANE?

Oakland's District 1 council race has attracted a spate of newcomers.

By Kathleen Richards

Oakland's District 1 — which encompasses Rockridge, Temescal, and parts of the Oakland hills and North Oakland down to San Pablo Avenue — hasn't had a legitimate race since 1996, when Jane Brunner was first elected to the city council. Now, after sixteen years in office, Brunner is running for city attorney, and the race to replace her has attracted a spate of newcomers — seven, to be exact.

Like the District 3 council race, there are no obvious frontrunners. Most of the candidates agree on key issues (e.g., increasing public safety and economic development, fixing the budget, and restoring the people's trust in government) but take different approaches to solving problems. They all seem thoughtful, committed, and qualified. So whom you vote for may ultimately depend on what issues you deem most important, and whose angle speaks most to you.

The sole woman in the race, Amy Lemley has a strong commitment to kids. A mother of two, she cofounded First Place for Youth, a nonprofit that finds affordable housing for youth out of foster care. She wants to make Oakland an attractive place for families by increasing the police force to 1,000 officers, and by tackling unemployment and poverty. Just how does she propose to pay for that? Lemley said she opposes raising revenues through a parcel tax and is adamant about not asking public unions for more concessions. She wants to generate revenue by luring new businesses to Oakland. "We do almost nothing to attract new businesses," she said. "We have policies that prevent people from doing business here."

Amy Lemley

But when pressed about shorter-term goals for raising funds for the city, Lemley said another parcel tax wasn't out of the question. She also mentioned the possibility of restructuring the real estate transfer tax and creating a general tax, but said that none of those proposals would be successful if the city council doesn't "change its ways and organize itself." Lemley is also in favor of renewing Measure Y (also known as Measure BB) in two years, noting that it'd create a $20 million hole in the budget without it. She also said she'd work more cooperatively with the county, and try to leverage more state and federal funding, in order to harness more social services for needy residents.

With her focus on schools, crime, and the economy, Lemley has garnered an impressive list of endorsements that includes Oakland City Councilmembers Libby Schaaf, Pat Kernighan, and Larry Reid; the Oakland police, firefighters, and public school teachers unions; and OakPAC, the political arm of the Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. As for her political ties, it's worth noting that Lemley's husband is Justin Horner, Brunner's former chief of staff. Brunner hasn't officially endorsed Lemley, but Lemley's campaign is being run by Larry Tramutola, who's also managing Brunner's campaign and Councilman Ignacio De La Fuente's run for the At-Large council seat. Besides that connection, however, Lemley and De La Fuente seem to have little in common politically.

Many of the candidates talk about sustainability, but Dan Kalb has the strongest background in environmental issues. He was the California policy director of the Union of Concerned Scientists for nearly ten years, helping to pass legislation to require at least one-third of the state's electricity to come from clean, renewable sources by the end of the decade, and was a chapter director of the Sierra Club (which endorses him). One of his key issues is making Oakland a nationally recognized hub for clean tech, which he said he could accomplish because of his relationship with many of the state's clean tech leaders.

Dan Kalb

But Kalb is perhaps most passionate about recidivism (although he seems passionate about many things). He said so multiple times during our conversation, and believes it's a key issue to reducing and preventing crime. He also wants to focus on youth programs and the schools.

Kalb said he takes an analytical approach to problem-solving, and some of his concrete solutions for raising revenue include creating a "rainy-day fund" — a line item in the city budget that would increase in good years and be used in bad years; and, although he wasn't sure of the legality of it, a 4 percent tax on local campaign contributions over $100 in order to increase staffing of the Public Ethics Commission. However, he admitted that a rainy-day fund and sales tax revenue (which increased in the city last year) wouldn't be enough to pay down the city's unfunded pension liabilities for public employees, so he'd probably look at raising taxes. He also wasn't opposed to the idea of renegotiating with the public-employee unions.

Kalb touts himself as a "people person," and said he'd prioritize restoring trust and confidence in City Hall, and making the council more professional and collegial. As such, he said he'd support Rebecca Kaplan to be city council president. "We're good friends," he said.

If Lemley is the kids' advocate, and Kalb the environmentalist, Richard Raya is the budget candidate. The former budget director of the Alameda County Public Health Department, he likes to point out that he's the only District 1 candidate who has experience balancing large government budgets, noting that he helped the county save $6 million for three years during hard times, avoiding any cuts to services. His strategy is to "budget for outcomes."

Richard Raya

Raya also has the distinction of having overcome difficult circumstances early in his life: His parents were farmworkers, his family was homeless at one point, and he was a high school dropout. As such, his approach to public safety emphasizes social justice and restoring the relationship between police and communities of color. He's a champion of Operation Ceasefire, a crime-prevention program that has been effective in other cities, and believes in a "village-wide" approach to reducing crime. He's also an advocate for development around transit corridors, and like Kalb wants to improve the San Pablo area.

Raya's list of endorsements is fairly varied. He's supported by the firefighters union, OakPAC (he's the group's second choice) and Oakland Rising Action, which mobilizes voters in East and West Oakland. And although De La Fuente endorses him, Raya said he disagrees with the councilman's support for curfews and gang injunctions. So why did he get his endorsement? "We have friends in common," said Raya. "He also believes I'm the most qualified candidate, and he believes he can work with me."

Don Link

When it comes to community policing, no candidate has shown more commitment than Don Link. The name most North Oakland residents may be familiar with, Link helped create the first Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council in Oakland in 1994, and was chair of Oakland's Community Policing Advisory Board from 1999 to 2008. Not surprisingly, Link's main platform is public safety. Like Raya, he's a strong advocate of Operation Ceasefire. "This is, in my opinion, the best solution for the shooting and violent crime that shocks everybody," he said, noting that the program is essentially free (it's funded by a federal grant). But Link acknowledged that Operation Ceasefire alone isn't enough to stop crime. A key part of prevention is better education and job training, he said, and keeping kids in school using proven programs like truancy court, in which the parents of frequently truant kids are admonished by a judge and threatened with consequences.

Craig Brandt

Economic development also plays a role, he said. Like many of the candidates, Link, who is a contractor by trade, wants to make Oakland friendlier to small businesses by reducing permitting fees and improving the attitude of workers in permitting departments to be more welcoming.

Also similar to most of the candidates, Link believes in increasing the size of the police force. His methods of generating (or finding) the necessary revenue to do so include a complete revision of the budget, increasing the business tax on rental properties (currently 1.4 percent) and enforcing collection of late payments on fees and penalties (he believes the city is losing out on several million dollars).

Craig Brandt may be the most straightforward and down-to-earth candidate in the race — but he admits he might be a "lousy politician." Brandt, a lawyer and father of two, has put forth concrete and specific proposals, but he acknowledges that this makes him politically unsavvy (although he recently earned the endorsement of the *Oakland Tribune*). His ideas may also not be that viable.

To hire more police officers — his biggest priority — Brandt is advocating for a temporary parcel tax of $80 a year for four years — but voters rejected such a proposal just last November. His other goal is attracting new businesses to the city by increasing the business tax exemption by $100,000, waiving the $60 registration fee, and exempting new businesses from taxes for their first year of operation. Although Brandt takes typical progressive stands in most areas (he supports Operation Ceasefire and restorative justice, is against curfews, stop-and-frisk, and sit/lie), he's conservative in the sense that he thinks the city should "get out of the way" of local entrepreneurs — and cites Art Murmur as a successful example of that (although the city has recently taken it over).

Unlike most politicians (and aspiring ones), Brandt doesn't claim to have all the answers. He admits he doesn't know how to solve the pension situation but said "it can't be ignored." Ruminating further, he said he thinks the solution will probably mean raising taxes and cutting benefits for pensioners.

But Brandt is firm on his convictions about not accepting campaign donations from unions, police, or any company that has contracts with the city that the council votes on. At a candidate forum on September 20, he said he disagreed with the Safeway expansion project at Claremont and College avenues that has been the source of much dispute, and said he wouldn't accept a campaign contribution from the grocery chain, either. "I think it's a total conflict of interest," he said in a recent interview. "That angers me to a considerable degree."

Donald Macleay

Another candidate who's rejecting political contributions (all of them in this case) is Green Party member Donald Macleay. Macleay, who ran an unsuccessful bid for mayor in 2010, is focusing his campaign on employment, housing, education and crime. Though he doesn't offer much in the way of specifics, he emphasizes that it's most important to elect "the right people."

A former machinist who now owns a small computer networking business, he wants to completely overhaul the city's budget, look at the possibility of redistricting, and believes that the city is missing out on collecting certain taxes. He's the only candidate who isn't pushing the hiring of more police officers, but he does believe in adding more civilians to the police force, which he said would reduce costs and help repair the department's relationship with the community.

Like Kalb, Macleay is also concerned with recidivism, as well as prostitution in the San Pablo Avenue area. He believes police need to be held accountable — perhaps with the creation of a police commission. And he has hopes that the city could "creatively negotiate" how to pay its pension obligations.

If you're a regular reader of the *Express*, you've likely seen the name Len Raphael before — that's because he's a frequent commenter on our site, and his opinions often appear in our letters section. He's by far the most conservative candidate of the bunch (he calls himself "George Orwellian"), but he's arguably one of the most informed on city issues. Like Brandt, Raphael, who's a CPA, has put concrete proposals on the table, but some of them are even more drastic and unpopular than his rivals'. Among his ideas: reduce the pay of councilmembers and the mayor by 30 percent; declare a health and fiscal emergency in the city; repeal binding arbitration for police and fire in order to give the heat to bad cops (which, however, would also make the city vulnerable to even more costly lawsuits); reduce police and fire pay; get rid of anti-violence programs that are ineffective (including possibly Measure Y, even if it would mean the loss of millions of dollars); double the number of police; and monitor and manage OPD more strictly. He's also one of the few candidates who welcomes federal receivership of OPD.

Len Raphael

Raphael's motto is to "shake up city hall," and there's no doubt that he would do so if given the chance. (He was the treasurer of the failed Committee to Recall Mayor Quan Now campaign.) He's highly critical of the other candidates' proposals and believes they don't go far enough.

Given the sense of urgency he feels about the city's present circumstances, particularly about the city's high crime rate, Raphael has garnered more supporters than you'd think. "I think people should march on City Hall with torches and pitchforks," he said. ●

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ELECTION 2012

AC TRANSIT DIRECTOR FACES TOUGH FIGHT

Berkeley attorney Yelda Bartlett has received numerous endorsements in her campaign against incumbent Joe Wallace

By J. Douglas Allen-Taylor

Of the two AC Transit board races this November, the one incumbent who looks vulnerable is Joe Wallace. The Richmond employment specialist has represented Ward 1 (Albany, El Cerrito, Richmond, San Pablo, El Sobrante, Kensington, North Richmond, and a portion of Berkeley) on the AC Transit Board of Directors since 2000. Although he ran unopposed for the seat in 2008, Wallace faces a significant challenge this year from Berkeley attorney Yelda Bartlett, who operates her own family and business law firm in Oakland.

Saying that the AC Transit board needs "progressive leadership," Bartlett lists her three top issues as reducing emissions, improving labor protections, and increasing ridership. In her official ballot statement, she stated that "AC Transit is in crisis. Fares are up while service has declined. Aging buses contribute to poor air quality and some of the highest child asthma rates in the state." She promises to "champion clean, renewable energy facilities and equipment that reduce pollution and global warming" and to "focus on data-driven budget solutions and improve effectiveness of transit service while respecting the rights of AC Transit workers."

When asked in a phone interview how she would accomplish those goals in an era of budget problems for the transit district, Bartlett said she would focus on removing inefficiencies and soliciting additional funds from the Bay Area's regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the federal Department of Transportation, and by "renegotiating the district's debt terms with banks so that we can decrease the yearly debt-service payment." Bartlett said that she was "not in favor of cutting bus service" as AC Transit has been doing for the past several years as a cost-savings measure, and only saw such actions as a "last resort."

As for Wallace, Bartlett was guarded in her criticism. "When he was appointed to office twelve years ago, it was because of the important advocacy work he had done in the Richmond area," she said. "But since then, he hasn't had a lot of initiatives in proposing new solutions or in advocating for people in his ward."

Yelda Bartlett.

Bartlett's major organizational endorsements include the Alameda County Democratic Lawyers Club, AFSCME Council 57 and AFSCME Local 3916, Berkeley Citizens Action, the Berkeley Democratic Club, Black Elected Officials & Faith Based Leaders of the East Bay (BEO & FBL), the East Bay Stonewall Democrats, the El Cerrito Democratic Club, the Green Party of Alameda County, the National Women's Political Caucus, and the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club. She has also been endorsed by AC Transit board member Greg Harper and West Contra Costa County school district President Charles Ramsey as well as by Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates and the entire eight-member Berkeley City Council.

While Wallace's official district biography lists him as being "instrumental in the creation of AC Transit's Line 376 service—California's first specifically-designed welfare-to-work bus route," Wallace routinely appears to be the least informed member of the board, often speaking out to demand better services for his constituents but then growing silent during budget or technical debates. He is similarly vague in his official ballot statement, stating, for example, that "my calling as a board member is simply to provide affordable, reliable, and efficient bus service" without indicating how that might be brought about. And when asked by the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club what taxes he would support raising or lowering, he said, "we need more tax dollars for the local community services, local streets and road repair and that [sic] what I will be in favor of," but did not specify which taxes he favored.

Wallace has been endorsed by Teamsters Joint Council 7, the Alameda Labor Council AFL-CIO, and the Sierra Club of Alameda and Contra Costa counties. He failed to attend the El Cerrito Democratic Club endorsement meeting, missing out on their endorsement. He declined to be interviewed for this story.

In the other AC Transit race, incumbent H. E. Christian "Chris" Peoples is facing retired AC Transit bus driver Dollene Jones. When Jones first ran for the AC Transit Ward 3 board seat two years ago, her path to victory seemed somewhat easier. The district's signature Bus Rapid Transit proposal was under attack in both the City of Berkeley and in North Oakland, its system-wide Van Hool buses were under severe criticism, it had an unpopular general manager, Rick Fernandez, and Jones was running against first-term incumbent Elsa Ortiz. Jones ran a credible campaign, coming in second to Ortiz, 31 to 47 percent, in a three-way race.

Chris Peoples.

This time around, Jones' task is more formidable. BRT has been approved for operation between downtown Oakland and downtown San Leandro; Fernandez is gone, along with his controversial "partnership" with Van Hool; and Jones is now running against a fifteen-year incumbent and longtime dedicated transit advocate — Peoples — for one of the two At-Large seats on the AC Transit board.

On the campaign trail, Jones has criticized the district for imposing a contract on bus drivers two years ago ("I'd never do that," she said) and for service cuts ("the public wants their service back"). She also has taken shots at Peoples directly ("after he's been serving fifteen years on the board, people are asking 'how come we're not in better shape?'"). But Jones is thin on solutions to the district's financial problems, saying that "we have to take a close look at the budget" and "I won't know [what needs to be fixed] until I get elected and get my hands on the documents."

Peoples, meanwhile, does not appear to be doing anything different this election season as he always seems to be in campaign mode. One of the more knowledgeable board members when it comes to transit issues, Peoples is a regular attendee of Bay Area regional and statewide transit meetings, and is a familiar face year-round at Alameda and Contra Costa county political club meetings. That extended activity has resulted in a virtual sweep of endorsements by the major political clubs in the area, including the Metropolitan Greater Oakland Democratic Club, the Berkeley Democratic Club, the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, the El Cerrito Democratic Club and the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Jones lists only the support of the powerful Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA) as an organizational endorsement.

Peoples is comfortable running on most of his record as an AC Transit board member, citing his "support for better access for disabled persons and low fares for children" and AC Transit's hydrogen fuel cell bus program, as well as his years of lobbying for state and federal funds for the district. But in one distinct area, Peoples seeks to turn the page on his record. The chief board supporter of the AC Transit-Van Hool exclusive partnership under Fernandez, Peoples now lists the fact that the district "now buy[s] buses in Hayward, engines in San Leandro and NextBus from Alameda" in his ballot statement. ●

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ELECTION 2012

BERKELEY AT A CROSSROADS

Why the mayor's race, two council contests, and several ballot measures will shape the city's future

By Robert Gammon

On a recent weekday, Fourth Street between Bancroft and Allston ways in West Berkeley was mostly abandoned. Unlike the upscale stretch of shops and eateries on the other side of University Avenue, this section of Fourth Street, a former hub of West Berkeley's once bustling industrial and warehouse sector, is now an empty reminder of glory days gone by.

Doug Herst, who owns the property on both sides of this area of Fourth, once operated a successful manufacturing business here. Peerless Lighting, his family business, designed and produced energy-efficient lighting fixtures. But faced with stiff competition from overseas companies using cheap labor, the West Berkeley Peerless Lighting manufacturing plant closed in 2006.

Similar scenes, of course, have played out across the United States over the past several decades, as the nation's manufacturing base has eroded and jobs have fled overseas. West Berkeley is no different. Over the past decade or so, this area of the city has lost 1,500 jobs — jobs that, in all likelihood, are never coming back.

But Herst has a vision for how to bring this bleak strip of Fourth Street back to life. He wants to turn it into a vibrant live-work community featuring an artists' colony with fifty affordable lofts for working artists, amid about three hundred units of workforce housing. The condos and apartments would surround artisan shops and green-tech businesses, including Peerless Lighting's still-thriving research division, so that residents could walk or bicycle to work. Known as Peerless Greens, the development also would include rooftop solar panels, and both a community garden and hanging gardens for residents to grow their own food.

"It's going to be a wonderful project," said Berkeley Councilman Darryl Moore, whose district includes the Peerless Greens property. "It really fits with our Climate Action Plan. It's about reducing greenhouse gases, while also bringing in jobs."

Moore shares Herst's vision, as does Assemblywoman Nancy Skinner, a longtime West Berkeley resident who is one of the most progressive members of the California Legislature. The proposal is also backed by a majority of the liberal Berkeley City Council, including Mayor Tom Bates and Councilmembers Laurie Capitelli and Susan Wengraf.

But Herst's plan for Fourth Street may never come to fruition unless Berkeley voters approve Measure T this November. The ballot measure, not only would allow the Peerless Greens project to move forward, but it also could help revive five other similar underused sites in West Berkeley. Skinner, Bates, and the council majority view Measure T much like the city's new downtown plan, contending that the measure would help Berkeley's struggling economy by spurring urban growth, thereby helping limit suburban sprawl and assisting the city in meeting its climate-change goals.

However, Peerless Greens and Measure T are facing stiff opposition this fall from a coalition that includes a small but vocal group of West Berkeley residents who are afraid that such developments will drive up rents and property values in the area and thus displace some residents, artisans, and small businesses. The coalition also includes longtime Berkeley anti-growth activists (who often refer to themselves as "preservationists") plus far-left progressive city leaders — including Councilmen Kriss Worthington and Jesse Arreguín, who also often vote "no" on proposals that would increase urban density in Berkeley.

If Measure T passes, a mostly abandoned section of Fourth Street would become an ultra-green development.

Worthington also is running against Bates this fall in the city's mayor's race. And so is candidate Jacquelyn McCormick, who opposes Measure T as well and is backed by members of the city's anti-growth crowd. In fact, the positions taken by the three leading mayoral candidates, along with those staked out by candidates in two city council races, on Measure T and measures R, U and V, represent a striking example of the competing visions for Berkeley's future.

On one side stands the pro-growth group, which includes Bates and Councilmen Moore and Capitelli, who are all running for reelection. They agree that the best way to revitalize Berkeley's economy is by repopulating the city (a concept also known as smart growth or transit-oriented development). In their view, bringing more people to town would not only provide more customers for Berkeley's restaurants, bars, shops and small businesses, but would also produce more tax revenues, thereby helping the city avoid raising taxes on an over-taxed community and slashing more services for the needy.

On the other side stands the anti-growth activists, some of who are liberals, too. They want Berkeley to remain much as it is — or better yet, they want it to return to what it was twenty or thirty years ago, when the city's manufacturing sector was still viable. This group fears that more residents will bring traffic congestion, and they strongly oppose the direction that Bates and the council majority have been taking the city. They're also staunch backers of measures U and V, which are designed to provide what they say are vital checks on the council majority, but what Bates, Moore, and Capitelli view as attempts to stop the council majority from achieving its goals.

Finally, there are the far-left progressives like Worthington who don't agree with the anti-growth activists on many issues, but tend to vote with them when it comes to questions like Measure T and Peerless Greens.

"It's a watershed moment for the city," Moore said.

Measure T

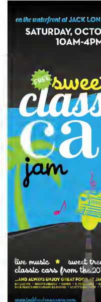
Measure T is on the ballot because of what happened to the city's downtown plan. That plan was designed to bring thousands of new residents to downtown Berkeley, and after the council majority, led by Bates, Moore, and Capitelli, approved it in 2009, anti-growth activists teamed up with Worthington and Arreguín to "referend" it. That's a procedure in which opponents of a council decision gather signatures to put the issue on the ballot or force the council to rescind its vote.

Worthington and Arreguín had originally voted against the downtown plan, not because they oppose urban growth, but because they believe the city needs to extract more concessions from developers to fund affordable housing, transportation, and social services. The council majority often ends up adopting some of Worthington and Arreguín's proposals, but typically not all of them for fear that developers, who already view Berkeley as being anti-business, would refuse to build in the city.

After opponents of the downtown plan referended it, the council rescinded it and decided to put it to voters in November 2010. Measure R, as it was called at the time, (not to be confused with the current Measure R, which involves redistricting) was endorsed by numerous environmentalists, including the Sierra Club, because it called for smart growth. Berkeley voters approved it overwhelmingly: it garnered 64 percent of the vote.

The council majority then approved a new downtown plan similar to the one it had okayed before. And though anti-growth activists opposed it, they did not referend it since voters had already spoken. As for Worthington, he voted against the new downtown plan, while Arreguín voted for it after the council majority added more compromises.

In an interview last week, Worthington said one of the main reasons he's running against Bates is that he said the mayor won't work with him. Worthington also contended that Bates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doesn't compromise enough. "If Tom Bates would only throw us a few bones … unaffordable housing, transit … more progressives would vote with him." Worthington also strongly contended that he's not part of the anti-growth crowd, which he pegged as representing about "20 to 25 percent" of Berkeley's population.

In a separate interview, Bates acknowledged that he and Worthington often clash, but said that Worthington too often makes the perfect the enemy of the good. Over the past several decades, Bates has worked with numerous elected officials, both on regional boards including the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and the state Assembly, and has earned a reputation for being a pragmatic consensus-builder. But Bates said that Worthington often can be exasperating because even after the mayor and the council majority adopt some of Worthington's proposals, Worthington still refuses to vote yes. "Worthington is just so difficult to work with," Bates said.

Tom Bates

Which brings us back to Measure T. Bates and the council majority decided earlier this year to put the plan for West Berkeley directly on the ballot, rather than approving it first, because they were convinced that opponents would referend their decision — just as they had done with the downtown plan. Worthington and Arreguín were the only two councilmembers who voted against putting Measure T before voters.

Under Measure T, six sites like Peerless Greens could be developed in West Berkeley during the next ten years. The sites would be given flexibility in terms of housing. But the new zoning under Measure T is voluntary — developers can choose to use it or can simply abide by the terms of the old zoning requirements. If they do use the new zoning rules, they must strike deals with the city council in which they make concessions, also known as "community benefits." These benefits can include payments to the city for affordable housing, transportation, and other needs.

Opponents of Measure T are running a spirited campaign. But they've also made some bogus and misleading statements. For example, in their official ballot argument, they asserted that Measure T would allow "75-foot high multi-block office parks" and "huge buildings next to Aquatic Park."

In truth, Measure T would allow neither. The plan would accommodate buildings of up to 75 feet in height, but would restrict the maximum average height of a development to 50 feet, thus precluding "75-foot high multi-block office parks." In addition, the council specifically exempted development sites along Aquatic Park from Measure T. As a result, even if voters approve the measure, "huge buildings next to Aquatic Park" would not be allowed.

Bates, Moore, and Capitelli, who is running for reelection in his North Berkeley district, all support Measure T. Their challengers oppose it.

McCormick, who is supported by longtime anti-growth activists like Planning Commissioner Patti Dacey, thinks Measure T is unnecessary. "I believe there is plenty of room in the current zoning" for the development of the six sites, she said. She also contended that developers will still develop those sites even if Measure T fails — although Hurst has repeatedly said that he would walk away from his Peerless Greens proposal if he does not have more flexibility to build housing on the site.

As for Worthington, he argued that the council should have included a specific list of which community benefits developers must provide. Because he's in the council minority, Worthington said doesn't trust the majority to extract enough community benefits because he views the majority as being too friendly to developers. Proponents of Measure T counter that a one-size-fits-all benefits list could hamstring both the city and developers. It wouldn't be fair to developers of smaller projects, and could hamper the city if it wants to require more benefits for larger projects.

Sophie Hahn, a zoning board commissioner who is running against Capitelli in North Berkeley and also is being backed by anti-growth activists, agrees with the West Berkeley residents and businesses that oppose Measure T. "I'm concerned about the impacts to the existing community," said Hahn, who is Worthington's appointee to the Berkeley zoning board. When asked whether she would have voted for the downtown plan, Hahn responded, "I really can't say."

As for Moore, he strongly supports Measure T and contends that it would not only help revitalize West Berkeley, but also the city and the region, because it promises to spur growth in the green-tech sector. He also sees parallels with the last Measure R.

Kriss Worthington

"It's some of the same people who didn't want the downtown plan to go through who also don't want changes in West Berkeley," he said.

Moore's opponents Denisha DeLane and Adolfo A. Cabral both oppose Measure T. DeLane, who is considered to be Moore's top rival, has been endorsed by Worthington, Arreguín, and anti-growth activists. She did not respond to an interview request for this story.

Measures U and V

Measures U and V are two of the farthest-reaching local initiatives in the history of Berkeley politics — and perhaps the entire state. They're so radical, in fact, that even Worthington said he opposes them. Anti-growth activists — who are deeply unhappy about decisions that the mayor and council have made in the past several years, particularly when it comes to development and smart growth — predominantly back them. McCormick is an ardent supporter of both measures, and is the primary backer of Measure V. Hahn also is in favor of Measure V, but said last week that she had no position on Measure U.

Called the Berkeley Sunshine Ordinance by its supporters, Measure U would impose many strict rules on the city and the council. Several of these regulations likely would greatly increase the length of public meetings in a city in which it is not unusual for council sessions to last well into the early morning hours. Measure U would require that every speaker at council meetings receive at least three minutes at the podium. On controversial items that draw two hundred speakers or more that could work out to at least ten hours for public comment alone. Measure U also would allow groups of one hundred or more people to place items on the council agenda — and then receive three minutes each to speak about them.

Measure U also would create a new commission with sweeping, unprecedented powers. Designed as an enforcement mechanism, this commission would have the ability to hire private lawyers to sue the council and the city at taxpayer expense, if the commission believed that either the city or council had violated Measure U. In an impartial analysis, City Attorney Zach Cowan stated that city staffers estimate that Measure U could cost taxpayers $1 million to $2 million a year. Cowan also stated that the lawsuit provision conflicts with the Berkeley City Charter, because the charter gives the council sole authority to initiate litigation. As a result, if the measure passes, and the new commission sues the city, then the case likely would be tied up in the courts until judges decide whether Measure U is legal.

Backers of Measure U, however, contend that it's key to ensuring open government in Berkeley. "We don't have enough transparency," McCormick said, adding that the new commission is essential to making sure the city and council abide by the measure. "It really truly needs to be independent," she said of the commission.

Jacquelyn McCormick

Although many agree that Berkeley's existing open government law needs to be improved, good-government groups, including the Berkeley League of Women Voters and Berkeley Common Cause, strongly oppose Measure U. Linda Swift of the League of Women Voters said that the measure is not only overly broad, but also too stringent. "It's unnecessary," she said. "It puts far too many restraints" on the city and council. She also argued that the new rules would dramatically slow down city government.

Bates, Capitelli, and Moore contend that slowing down — or even halting — city government is precisely what the anti-growth activists want. Measure U is not a sunshine ordinance, but rather an attempt by a group of activists to block the council majority. "They're frustrated and paranoid," Bates said of the anti-growth crowd. "And they don't like the direction that the council majority is taking the city, and they want to stop it — all of it."

The council majority views Measure V in the same vein. Like the proposed sunshine ordinance, Measure V looks reasonable at first glance. It would require that, every two years, the city manager or an "independent professional" prepare a comprehensive report on the city's long-term debt obligations and then "certify" it.

Although there are few objections to preparing such a report, the "certify" provision has sparked a strong backlash. Bates and others call it "poison pill" because if some resident — say an anti-growth activist — believes that the report does not accurately or completely take into account all the city's financial obligations, then that person could sue the council and the city.

Opponents of Measure V argue that such a lawsuit would be disastrous and possibly force the city into default, because while the lawsuit is proceeding in the courts, the council would be prohibited from making any financial decisions. For example, it would be blocked from issuing temporary revenue bonds that cities use to maintain cash flow, meet payroll, and pay bills.

Sophie Hahn

Capitelli, who has a reputation for trying to find compromises with those who disagree with him, had worked for a time with the proponents of Measure V, but then gave up when they steadfastly refused to get rid of the "certify" provision. "I think there are plenty of people in town who would try to take the city to court because they don't like something," he said. "And then you can't do anything. That's dangerous."

But Capitelli's challenger Hahn, along with McCormick, contends that opponents of Measure V are making too much of the "certify" provision. "If someone were to challenge it in court," Hahn said of the report, "I don't think they would get very far."

The certify provision, however, has prompted the League of Women Voters to also strongly oppose Measure V. And in his impartial analysis, City Attorney Cowan stated that Measure V would also violate the Berkeley City Charter because the charter states that the council has sole authority to make financial decisions for the city. Cowan also stated that Measure V appears to violate the California Constitution.

Measure R

Measure R, the redistricting measure, also has prompted a split in the alliance between anti-growth activists and far-left progressives. Both McCormick and Hahn oppose the measure, but Worthington and Arreguín strongly support it, as does the rest of the city council. Regardless, the outcome of Measure R could prove pivotal to Berkeley's future.

The measure would allow the council to redraw city council districts and to ignore the boundary lines created in 1986. Opponents of those old boundary lines contend that they were gerrymandered in order to split the UC Berkeley student vote and thus limit the power and influence of students on Berkeley politics.

There has only been one Cal student elected to the city council in Berkeley history — Nancy Skinner, who is now Berkeley's Assemblywoman. In fact, Skinner was on the council in 1986 when voters approved the boundary lines. At the time, voters weren't necessarily enamored with the lines; instead they favored the idea of district elections. Prior to 1986, councilmembers were elected from

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the city at large. And proponents of district elections rightly noted in 1986 that at-large elections had resulted in some communities not having a voice on the council.

Skinner views Measure R as a way to keep district elections but fix the problem of students having almost no influence on city politics. The old boundary lines, she said, "diminished the power of student votes in the city."

Numerous student groups strongly back the measure, and so do the League of Women Voters and Berkeley Common Cause. Aryndel Lamb-Marsh, president of Berkeley Common Cause, noted that many Cal students have traditionally lived on the south side of campus, and yet the 1986 boundary lines carved up that section of the city. "The Southside neighborhood is generally considered to be its own cohesive neighborhood, but it's currently split among three council districts," Lamb-Marsh pointed out.

McCormick and Hahn said the reason they oppose Measure R is that it would allow the council majority to decide the new district lines. They say that redistricting should be the job of voters or an independent commission. McCormick argued that allowing the council to draw the boundary lines is "gerrymandering. There's no other way to define it."

But Bates and other proponents of Measure R point out that it's common in California and other states for city councils and county boards of supervisors to draw their own boundary lines. Moreover, city residents and groups will have ample time to provide input during the redistricting process should Measure R pass. The measure, Bates said, also "offers for the first time an opportunity to elect a campus-oriented candidate."

Laurie Capitelli

Bates and Skinner also view the opposition to Measure R as being much like that of Measure T. Anti-growth activists know full well that Cal students have traditionally advocated for more housing in the city, and if students can elect a councilperson, then it would make it easier for pro-growth proposals like the downtown plan to become law. "I think some people are just stuck in the past," Skinner said of the opposition to changing the 1986 boundary lines and revising West Berkeley zoning rules enacted in the 1990s (as Measure T would do). "For me, the question is: Do we want a vibrant Berkeley or do we want a lot of empty storefronts and empty buildings?"

The Contests

There have been several news reports in recent weeks regarding a supposed plan by Worthington and McCormick to team up against Bates and use ranked-choice voting to defeat him. This reported effort has been likened to the strategy used by Oakland Councilwomen Jean Quan and Rebecca Kaplan to defeat ex-state Senator Don Perata in the 2010 mayor's race. However, both Worthington and McCormick backed away from such a plan last week. In fact, Worthington said flat-out that he's not asking his supporters to vote for anyone but him.

It's also unclear whether a Worthington-McCormick team strategy would work. Quan and Kaplan are both pro-growth progressives who agree on a wide range of issues, and so it was easy for them to team up against the more moderate Perata. But in Berkeley, Worthington and McCormick have very little in common politically. In fact, a substantial number of McCormick's supporters appear to be moderate or conservative, and so it's unlikely that they would select the ultra-left Worthington as the second choice on their ballots rather than Bates, who is closer to them on the political spectrum — unless they're staunchly anti-growth. Likewise, it's questionable whether Worthington supporters would select the more conservative McCormick, who talks a lot about the problem of public-employee pensions, as their second choice rather than Bates.

Darryl Moore

Worthington and McCormick also have had no citywide electoral success. In 2008, Skinner trounced Worthington in the Assembly race, and Skinner now backs Bates for mayor. As for McCormick, she could do no better than finish third in a 2010 city council race and was beaten soundly by incumbent Gordon Wozniak — another Bates supporter. Bates, meanwhile, has won numerous citywide elections over the past decade — both for mayor and state Assembly.

A wild card on the November ballot, however, is Measure S. The controversial measure would ban sitting on sidewalks in Berkeley's commercial districts, and many local progressives strongly oppose it — as does Worthington. And McCormick's opposition to Measure S might convince supporters of Worthington to select her as their second choice rather than Bates, who is in favor of the measure.

The North Berkeley council race, meanwhile, could be close. In 2008, Capitelli defeated Hahn, 52.4 percent to 47.5 percent, in the District 5 contest. Over the years, though, Capitelli has gained a reputation for being a well-liked councilman while Hahn has never held elective office.

District 2, which encompasses parts of West and South Berkeley, is harder to handicap. In 2008, Moore won by a landslide, garnering a whopping 82 percent of the vote. This year is different, however, because of Measure T. The measure has stirred a heated debate in West Berkeley, and both of Moore's challengers oppose it.

The only other contested council race involves incumbent Max Anderson in District 3, South Berkeley, against challenger Dmitri Belser, who has been endorsed by Bates and other pro-growth elected officials. However, Anderson, unlike Worthington, sometimes votes with the council majority on development issues. He voted for the downtown plan, for example. And so it's unclear whether this race will impact the balance of power in Berkeley, and thus, the city's future. ●

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

ARTS & CULTURE

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

ATTRACTIONS

Oakland Walking Tour: Uptown to the Lake A tour of the Uptown District with an emphasis on Art Deco. Includes stops at the Paramount and Fox theaters, the Kaiser Center roof garden, and more. To RSVP: 510-238-3234 or OaklandNet.com. Sat., Oct. 13, 10 a.m., free. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. ParamountTheatre.com.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS, & FIESTAS

Alameda Filipino American History [illegible] Celebration A 2-part event featuring a morning golf tournament ($50) [illegible] and an evening of Filipino jazz at Yoshi's ($35-$40). Sat., Oct. 13, [illegible] The Community Center [illegible] Harbor Bay [illegible] Alameda.

East Bay Kids [illegible] Fair [illegible] pony [illegible], and more. All proceeds [illegible] program. Sun., Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. [illegible] Campus, [illegible] Oakland [illegible].

Latin [illegible] 2012 Festival and Gala With wine, appetizers, and live music, followed by a keynote speech by artist and journalist [illegible] and then dinner and dancing. For more information see [illegible]. Oct. 12, [illegible] p.m. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-7800. [illegible]

Life is Living Oakland 2012 Celebrating urban life through hip-hop, intergenerational health and environmental action. With a special DJ set by [illegible]. Sat., Oct. 12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., free. DeFremery Park, 1651 Adeline St., Oakland. 510-238-7212. OaklandNet.com/[illegible].

Sunday Streets Berkeley The mile-long stretch from Haste to Rose on Shattuck will be shut down to traffic on Sunday and will instead be [illegible] musical performances, hula hooping, yoga classes, and more. See [illegible] for more info. Sun., Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., free.

HEALTH, WELLNESS, & SEXUALITY

East Bay Chronic Pain Group Call Susan Malley at 510-[illegible] or e-mail SusanMalley@Yahoo.com for more information. First and third Tuesday of every month, 3-5 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library Rockridge Branch, 5366 College Ave., Oakland. 510-597-5011. OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] Healing [illegible] [illegible] Grove will [illegible] herbal remedies specific to common ailments. Sun., Oct. 14, 3-4:30 p.m., free. Angel Light Books, 2141 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. AngelLightBooks.com.

[illegible] [illegible] 55 and up. [illegible] Tuesdays, [illegible] p.m. $5 suggested donation. South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St., Berkeley. 510-981-5170.

Newly Diagnosed Breast Cancer Workshop For women who have just been diagnosed or are undergoing treatment. With group support and information by guest medical experts. Wednesdays, [illegible] p.m. Continues through Oct. 31, and Cancer Support Advocacy, 3170 Ronnie Ave., Walnut Creek. 925-933-0107.

Peer Counseling With confidential drop-in counseling with a talk therapy approach. Mondays-Fridays, [illegible] p.m., free. 510-548-2570. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-2570. BerkeleyFreeClinic.org.

Sex Toys 101: Everything You've Always Wanted to Know... This week's [illegible] day Happy Hour will help you figure out which toys are best for you. First ten to arrive get a free vibrator. Wed., Oct. 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m., free. Good Vibrations, 2504 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-8987. GoodVibes.com.

KIDS

[illegible] in Oakland with the Berkeley Lab Explorers Lawrence Berkeley National Lab [illegible] open house with a family-friendly day of hands-on science activities. Registration required. See http://www.lbl.gov/openhouse. Sat., Oct. 13, [illegible] p.m., free. Lawrence Berkeley Oakland Laboratory, UC Berkeley Campus, Berkeley. 510-486-4000. LBL.gov.

Art Workshop with MOCHA Artists from the Museum of Children's Art present art workshops with different themes each week. Alameda [illegible]. 2-4 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library 81st Ave. Branch, 1021 81st Ave., Oakland. 510-615-5812. OaklandLibrary.org.

Lyle the Crocodile Fairly Heard [illegible] stage adaptation of the [illegible] children's book, starring Calvin Kai Ku. Recommended for children four and older. Saturdays, Sundays, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Continues through Oct. 28. $12-$20. Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 2020 Addison St., Berkeley. (510) 548-1761. TheFreight.org.

Preschool Storytime A reading event for preschoolers. First and third Wednesday of every month, 10:30 a.m., free. Oakland Public Library Rockridge Branch, 5366 College Ave., Oakland. 510-597-5017. OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] Programming for Kids A class for kids over age 10 [illegible] how to program [illegible] simple games, and other game development skills. Saturdays, 10 a.m. [illegible] The Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment, 610 16th St., Oakland. TheMADE.org.

The World's Funniest Bubble Show Tom [illegible] Bubble Man [illegible] known as [illegible] brings his bubble-filled, [illegible] performance back to The Marsh. Sundays, 11 a.m. Continues through Nov. 25. $8-$10. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-8291. TheMarsh.org.

LGBT

50+ Lesbian and Bi Women Discussion Group Second and fourth Friday of every month, 1-3 p.m., free. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283. PacificCenter.org.

Butch-Stud Support Group A weekly drop-in support group for masculine, lesbian-identified women [illegible] butches, studs, aggs, [illegible] Mondays, 1-3 p.m., free. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283. PacificCenter.org.

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Lesbians of Color Support Group A drop-in peer group for lesbian women of color to discuss issues in a safe, communicative environment. Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., free. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283. PacificCenter.org.

Man Massaging Man No previous experience necessary to participate in this erotic massage gathering. Every other Friday, 7:10 p.m. $20, with a $5 discount for bringing your own [illegible] and towel. Aquarius Heart Center, 4020 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]Studio.com.

Wellness Clinic A drop-in LGBTQ wellness clinic. Fourth and second Saturday of every month, 12:30-3 p.m., free. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-8283. PacificCenter.org.

Through the Space and Speed Dating With dancing and drinking for women who love women. Second Saturday of every month, 5-8 p.m. $5. [illegible] Era Art Bar and Lounge, 19 Grand Ave., Oakland. [illegible].com.

PETS

Adoptions at Cosmo & Co. With dogs and cats available for adoption from the East Bay SPCA. Second Saturday of every month, 12-3 p.m. EastBaySPCA.org. Nathan & Co., 4025 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. NathanAndCo.com.

Feral Cat Foundation Adoptions With fostered cats available for adoption. Saturdays, 12-3:30 p.m. FeralCat-Foundation.org. Pet Food Express, North Oakland, 6398 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-923-9500. PetFoodExpress.com.

Free Dog Advice Thursdays Get advice on house training your puppy, grooming basics, or knowing when you need to go to the vet. Leave your dog in your car until instructed. Jonathan Cordello [illegible] Oakland [illegible]. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m., free. Paws Culture, 2195 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-7220. PawsCulture.com.

Hana Foundation Adoptions With dogs and cats available for adoption. Every other Saturday, 12-4 p.m. Continues through Oct. 21. [illegible]Foundation.org. Pet Food Express, Rockridge, 5144 Broadway, Oakland. 510-654-5880. PetFoodExpress.com.

Pet Loss Support Group A drop-in group for those preparing for or already grieving the loss of a pet. Third Sunday of every month, 1-2:30 p.m. [illegible] accepted. Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society, 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. 510-845-7735. BerkeleyHumane.org.

Rabbit Adoptions With rabbits available for adoption from Oakland Animal Services. Second Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. [illegible]AnimalServices.org. Pet Food Express, Alameda, 2660 Blanding Ave., Alameda. 510-864-2122. PetFoodExpress.com.

RabbitEARS Adoptions With rabbits, guinea pigs, and hamsters available for adoption. Second and fourth Saturday of every month, 1-4 p.m. RabbitEARS, 1523 Fairmount Ave., El Cerrito. 510-525-8455. RabbitEARS.org.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Kum Nye A drop-in class for all levels, with techniques for relaxation, healing, breathing [illegible], and revitalizing body and mind. Sundays, 10 a.m.-noon. $15. Tibetan Nyingma Institute, 1815 Highland Pl., Berkeley. 510-843-6812. Nyingma.org.

Public Satsang With spiritual teacher Pieter Oskam. First and third Wednesday of every month, 7:30-9 p.m. 510-835-[illegible]. [illegible].org. Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-845-2221. HillsideClub.org.

Sacred Poetry Pieter [illegible] reads from his works as part of a series, "Prayers of [illegible] Poetry in a time of singing, and meditation accompaniment, followed by poetry. Prayers begin at [illegible] poetry at 8. All are welcome. Wed., Oct. 17, 7-9 p.m., free. [illegible] School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-8750. PSR.edu.

SALES, SWAPS, PROMOTIONS, & FUNDRAISERS

Alameda West End Flea Market With collectables, custom jewelry, beauty accessories, fashion, home decor, and vintage and antique items. Saturdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., free. 510-909-5431. WestEndFleaMarket.com. College of Alameda, 555 Atlantic Ave., Alameda. 510-522-7221. Alameda.Peralta.edu.

SOCIAL EVENTS

[illegible] Trivia Mondays Mondays, [illegible] p.m., free. The Fireside Lounge, 1453 Webster St., Alameda. 510-864-1244. TheFiresideLounge.com.

Bicycle Bingo Sluffy Sue [illegible] a weekly bingo game with prizes, to raise funds for various nonprofits. This week's game raises funds for [illegible]. Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. $3-$10. Actual Cafe, 6334 San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 510-653-6366. ActualCafe.com.

Dolo's Trivia Night Quizmaster Chuck [illegible] leads a weekly group pub quiz with prizes. Mondays, [illegible] p.m., free. Cato's Ale House, 3891 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-3349. [illegible].com.

Oakland Meet, Eat, & Learn Chance to meet fellow activists and eat organic or vegan food. Third Monday of every month, 7 p.m. CoCoPiNK, 1248 Solano Ave., Albany. 510-524-2726. [illegible] CocoPink.org.

Instant Celebrity A social event showcasing emerging performance artists. With [illegible] at 9:00, a book release. Third Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. Continues through Oct. 31. $5. 510-336-1170. [illegible].com. The Vagabond Emporium, 850 Oakland St., Oakland. VagabondEmporium.Wordpress.com.

Oakland [illegible] A weekly yoga [illegible] [illegible] by [illegible] Mondays, 6:30-8 p.m. $5-$15. [illegible].com. [illegible] Social Club, 2202 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland.

Pub Quiz Teams of two to five people compete for prizes, hosted by [illegible] and Christa. Third Tuesday of every month, 7:30-10 p.m., free. The Missouri Lounge, 2600 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-2080. TheMissouriLounge.com.

Trivia and Games Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., free. The Fireside Lounge, 1453 Webster St., Alameda. 510-864-1244. TheFiresideLounge.com.

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

11th Instant Walk to End Domestic & Teen Dating Violence An annual walk to raise funds for A Safe Place, the only comprehensive domestic violence [illegible] in Oakland. [illegible] providing programs and services to victims of domestic and teen dating [illegible]. Sat., Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Edoff Memorial Band Stand at Lake Merritt, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland.

Bike to Market With bicycle check-ups, safety adjustments, and [illegible] games, plus Bike Shepherd registration and Yuba Cargo Bike rentals provided by Bay Area Bikes. [illegible] Sunday of every month. See InstituteForUrbanLiving.PCFMA.com. Jack London Square Farmer's Market, Webster and Embarcadero, Oakland.

Bird Illustration at Lake Merritt Oakland-based artist Lisa Sebbit will lead participants on a walk with [illegible] tions. Bring [illegible] and supplies, and RSVP to [illegible]. Sat., Oct. 13, 12-2 p.m., free. Lake Merritt Rotary Nature Center, 600 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. 510-238-3739. LakeMerritt.org.

[illegible] Boat Racing Join the Alameda Dragon [illegible] for [illegible] dragon boating sessions. Equipment provided. Meets at 2400 [illegible] Square Dr., Alameda. Saturdays, 9:45-11:30 a.m., free. 510-535-7550. AlamedaDragonFlyers.com.

East Bay Bike Party The [illegible] party for riders of all ages [illegible] and [illegible] meets monthly at various BART stations. Check website for details. [illegible] Friday of every month, free. EastBayBikeParty.Wordpress.com.

Endless Cycles Lake Chabot Night Ride Weekly off-road mountain bike ride followed by pizza and beverages. Bicycle lights required. Riders of all skill-levels welcome. Contact Donald EndlessCycles[illegible].com or 510-[illegible]-9534 for more information. Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., free. Lake Chabot Regional Park, 17600 Lake Chabot Rd., Castro Valley. 510-281-2520. [illegible].org/Parks/Lake_Chabot.

East Pitch [illegible] Softball With weekly [illegible] games. Saturdays, 12-2:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 31, free. 510-[illegible]. Montclair Ball Field, 6300 Moraga Ave., Oakland. 510-482-1812.

Fight Club Play old school fighting video games, like Soul Calibur and Street Fighter, with a tournament at 1:30 p.m. Tournament game determined by participants. Tuesdays, 2-8 p.m. $8. The Museum of Art and Digital Entertainment, 610 16th St., Oakland. TheMADE.org.

Hooping With hoopdancing for people of all ages. Sundays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., free. LucasHooping.com. Jack London Square Farmer's Market, Webster and Embarcadero, Oakland.

Pickleball A fast-paced game combining elements of tennis, ping pong, and volleyball. For all ages and experience levels. Played on the tennis courts. Tuesdays, 9-1:30 p.m. $3-$5. [illegible] paddle rental. 510-559-7210. AlbanyCA.org. Ocean View Park, 900 [illegible] St., Albany.

Pub Quiz Trivia Sundays, 7:30 p.m., free. Scott's Bar, 1530 Lincoln Ave., Alameda. 510-522-6263. ScottsAlameda.com.

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

Golden Gate Fields Rescue Days With [illegible] hot dogs and three dollar [illegible] daiquiris. Sundays, 11. Golden Gate Fields, 1100 Eastshore Hwy., Berkeley. 510-559-7300. GoldenGateFields.com.

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 600 3rd St., Oakland, CA 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

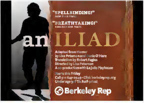
PICKS

East Bay Mini Maker Faire

Three years ago, when a couple DIY types founded the East Bay's ultra kid-friendly alternative to the massive San Mateo Maker Faire, it was a relatively novel and nichey concept. Now, in the era of DIY everything, the idea feels downright prescient, and the event itself has grown commensurately with the zeitgeist, attracting some 5,000 tinkerers, crafters, creators, and generally curious folks last year. This year's iteration, to be held on Sunday, Oct. 14, at Park Day School (360 42nd St., Oakland) has expanded to include more than one hundred maker exhibits, workshops on soldering, butter-churning, screen-printing, and more; a "pedal-powered amusement ride"; plus panels, music, and plenty else in the way of great and geeky. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $25 online, $30 at the door; kids $10 or $15. EBMakerFaire2012.EventBrite.com — *Ellen Cushing*

Sunday Streets Berkeley

It's simple: Ever want to [illegible] it, play [illegible] in the streets? Kids try to do it; adults dream about it, and now on Sunday, Oct. 14, everyone gets their chance with Sunday Streets Berkeley. Already wildly successful in San Francisco for five years running, the event aims to build community and foster creative use of public space by closing streets to traffic — and Berkeley's version should be no different, with seventeen blocks of Shattuck Avenue (between Rose and Haste sts.) open to musical performances, hula hooping classes, face-painting, free yoga classes, hands-on science activities, and much much more, all without a car in sight. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., free. SundayStreetsBerkeley.com — *E.C.*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www.postermywall.com

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

A Work Driven by Older Women

Anne Walsh's installation reimagines Leonora Carrington's surreal 1960 feminist novel *The Hearing Trumpet*.

In the early 1960s, surrealist painter and writer Leonora Carrington wrote a bold and bizarre feminist novel called *The Hearing Trumpet*. The story unfolds from the viewpoint of Marian Leatherby, a stone-deaf, bearded 92-year-old woman who has just been deposited in a twisted and surreal home for the aging. Here, with the aid of an ornate hearing trumpet, she embarks on a defiant adventure of fantastic, carnivalesque proportions.

While *The Hearing Trumpet*'s cultural reach remains fairly limited, the following it does have is devoted and intense. Carrington herself, now in her mid-nineties, continues to receive a steady stream of admiring callers — scholarly and artistic types, mostly — at her Mexico City home. "She entertains visitors willingly but cautiously," said Oakland-based artist Anne Walsh, who has been one on several occasions over the past few years. Many are invited, but not all are invited back. "I realized that I had some importance for her when I went back to visit a year later and saw that she had posted a picture with me on her wall," said Walsh.

Detail of Anne Walsh's *An Annotated Hearing Trumpet*.

The Hearing Trumpet has long enthralled Walsh and by the time she went to Mexico it had become a focus of her artistic practice. *An Annotated Hearing Trumpet: Preface and Figures*, now at Martina Johnston Gallery, is the first glimpse of an ongoing project that will include an illustrated, annotated version of the novel and ultimately, a full-fledged film adaptation of it.

As for the current installation, Walsh aptly describes it as "an exploded storyboard" prefiguring the eventual film. The gallery space is plastered with visual media including correspondence with Carrington, photographs of Walsh's studio, magazine cutouts, photographs of family members and acquaintances, and several all-star cast lists with names like Virginia Woolf, John Waters, and Whoopi Goldberg punched in marquis-style, laser-cut type.

To understand this esoteric profusion is to understand that, for Walsh, *The Hearing Trumpet* has expanded far beyond a mere text or artistic source material. In fact, it has evolved into an interpretative schema for the greater part of her current personal and intellectual development. Scenes of daily life have become redolent of moments in the book, people on the street and pop-culture figures — characters. Indeed, even Carrington herself at some point slipped from author of *The Hearing Trumpet* to character in the loosely adapted film version that Walsh was imagining.

Walsh describes this as an exercise in coming to terms with the inevitable arrival of a certain time in her life. "I need to figure out what this thing is about being an older woman," she said. "How to do it. How to become that in a way that I'm proud of."

The exhibition explodes with possibilities, as cutting-board visions of *An Annotated Hearing Trumpet* interweave with candid exposures of the artist's personal life. Grounding it all is the figure of Carrington, reaching across time and space with guidance on a universal theme: how to grow old and do it well.

An Annotated Hearing Trumpet: Preface and Figures runs through October 28 at Martina Johnston Gallery (1204 Sixth St. 2nd Fl., Berkeley). 510-558-0993 or MartinaJohnston.org.

— *Alex Bigman*

ART GALLERIES

6850 Christie Ave.: 25th Annual Emeryville Art Exhibition A juried exhibition featuring work in various media. Through Oct. 28. free. 6850 Christie Ave., Emeryville.

Addison/Window Windows: Val Britton A site-specific exhibit featuring mixed media media mapping the artist's physical locations, and psychological and emotional spaces. Through Jan. 31, 2013. 2100 Milvia St., Berkeley. [illegible]

Frank Bette Center for the Arts: Gallery Garland, A Retrospective A posthumous retrospective of the artist's painting and sculpture. Through Oct. 31. free. 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957. FrankBetteCenter.org.

Betti Ono Gallery and Shop: Rem, Dekh With works in mixed media by Kendrick "ONEAfrodelic" Daye. Through Oct. 13. 1427 Broadway, Oakland. 510-473-5010, BettiOno.com.

Bullseye Gallery: Surface: Notion at the Forefront of Painterly Glass A group exhibition surveying the current landscape of painting with glass. With works by Karl Mennick, Michael Janis, Martha Pfanschmidt, Ted Sawyer, Ala Syvlag, and Jeff Wallin. Through Oct. 27. 4514 Hollis St., Emeryville. 510-658-5318. BullseyeGlass.com.

Chandra Cerrito Contemporary: [illegible] With large-scale pastel drawings by Donna Anderson Klin. Through Nov. 29. free. **Olmai** Featuring oil paintings by Holly Wilhelm. Through Nov. 28. free. 480 23rd St., Oakland. 510-260-7494, ChandraCerrito.com.

The Compound Gallery & Studios: Oakland Heroes Solo exhibition. Opening reception on Oakland, Oct. 5, 6-9 p.m. Closing tea and artist talk on Sunday, Nov. 4, 3-6 p.m. Through Nov. 4. 1167 65th St., Oakland. 510-601-5702. TheCompoundGallery.com.

Creative Growth Art Center: Rawbound Featuring textile work by Sally Pequeonono and Carlos Perez. Through Nov. 9. free. 355 24th St., Oakland. 510-836-2340. CreativeGrowth.org.

David Brower Center: Before California With illustrations, sketches, and murals by Laura Cunningham, exploring what California was like centuries ago. Through Jan. 28, 2013. 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-809-0900. BrowerCenter.org.

Expressions Gallery: Attraction to Abstraction A collaborative group show between San Francisco-based and [illegible] artists featuring Olga Visme, Audrey Salomaon, Louis Gonnella, Mark Greyland, Bobbie Eyo, and many more. Through Nov. 3. 2035 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4930. ExpressionsGallery.org.

FLOAT: Oakland Theater and Art Gallery: Occasional Oakland Sounds With mixed media by Alice Lee and skate media by Yvette M. Burgess. Through Oct. 28. 1806 [illegible] Pl., Oakland. 510-535-1702. [illegible]

FM Gallery: Memorecapes Featuring drawings by Marie Shelley. Through Oct. 21. free. 483 25th St., Oakland.

Gray Loft Gallery: From One Thing To Another — The Art of Recycle With assemblage, collage, sculpture, furniture, jewelry, handbags and stationary made from objects not intended as art, by Michael Mew, Tom White, Clark Wiskotten, Shelley Gardner and more. Through Nov. 8. 2889 Frost St., Oakland. 510-499-3445.

Hardwood Studios: Angustias or Dust ARTMUSIC ILLUSTRATIONS A multi-artist gallery show to benefit artist Maren Peterson. Show includes a [illegible] exhibit and [illegible] exhibit, as well as live music. Sat., Oct. 13, noon-midnight, Sun. Oct. 14, 12-8 p.m. $4-$8 [illegible]. 816 27th Avenue, Oakland.

Institute of Mosaic Art: Off The Wall With mosaics by Wilma Wyss. Through Nov. 4. 2924 Chapman St., Oakland. 510-433-0082. InstituteofMosaicArt.com.

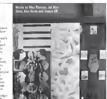
Interface Gallery: Wild and Free This exhibition, featuring paintings by Mary Ann Rieck, Danielle Eisenberger, Blake Szydlowski, video from Karl Cronin, drawings from [illegible], and paintings and carvings by Nathaniel Parsons, explores the way Western culture thinks about and relates to wilderness. Opening reception on Friday, Oct. 5, 6-9 p.m. Through Oct. 28. 486 49th St., Oakland. InterfaceGallery.com.

Johansson Projects: Decryptions With work by Marie Bourget, Ken Lo, and Daniel Small. Oct. 13-Nov. 22. free. 2300 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-9140.

PICKS

Stand Tall Pt. III

Now in its third run, Old Crow's annual *Stand Tall* group show could not get much bigger without spilling into the space's tattoo parlor. This year, 38 artists received 30 partitioned spaces in which to complete site-specific works. For this, the gallery constructed a temporary wall through the center of the gallery, effectively doubling exhibition space to accommodate a staggering display of local and international street art. Styles vary from decorative paneling to ultra-detailed illustration to shanty-like mixed media assemblage. The site-specific submission format yields its share of whimsy, like the dramatic badger sculpture by Joe Kowalczyk, as well as hits, as with Truong Tran's installation of backlit chambers holding a curious array of biblically symbolic objects, soft-core porn cutouts, and antiquated recording equipment. Such is the nature of a group show this jam-packed, and this one is worth seeing.



Works by [illegible], Jet Martinez, Ken Davis and [illegible] 27.

Stand Tall Pt. III runs through October 21 at Old Crow Tattoo & Gallery (5020 Grand Ave., Oakland). 510-834-2769 or OldCrowTattoo.com. — *Alex Bigman*

JohanssonProjects.com

John F. Kennedy University Arts and Consciousness Gallery: River Again: A Love Letter to the Midnight Woods A large-scale installation and performance piece combining works on paper, wood, wool, and found material, with handmade sound and a capella song by [illegible] Smith. Performances at 7 p.m. on Oct. 13 and 20. Through Oct. 26. 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-0499, JFKU.edu/Gallery.

Joyce Gordon Gallery: Transfiguration With new work by [illegible] and abstract paintings by [illegible]. Through [illegible]. 406 14th St., Oakland. 510-465-8928, JoyceGordonGallery.com.

Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden: Wild Imaginings With drawings of [illegible], and words by [illegible]. Through Nov. 6. 1223 Park St., Alameda. 510-865-2385, JuliesTea.com.

[illegible] Gallery: Counterpoint A collaborative photo-based project by [illegible]. Through Oct. 12. [illegible] Ave., Alameda. [illegible]

Kala Art Institute Gallery: [illegible] Exhibition explores [illegible] in a wide array of media and processes. Through Nov. 24. 2990 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-7000, Kala.org.

[illegible], Oakland With a [illegible] video installation, along with [illegible] photographs, and sculpture by [illegible]. Through Oct. 13. [illegible] 23rd St., Oakland. [illegible]

MacArthur B Arthur: The Desert of the Self Itself Featuring work in various media by Christine M. Petersen, [illegible]. Curated by [illegible]. Through Oct. 28. [illegible] Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. 510-239-0774, MacArthurBArthur.com.

[illegible] Gallery: Sacred Structures [illegible] Through Nov. 10. Free. **Spirit Series** Oil paintings by [illegible]. Through Nov. 10. Free. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-280-2335, [illegible]Gallery.com.

[illegible] Workshop: [illegible] Photography by [illegible]

[illegible] Through Nov. 2. Free. 481 5th St., [illegible]. 510-214-0784, [illegible]

[illegible] Johnston: An Annotated Hearing Trumpet, Profane and Beauty With photographs and text works created as a personal response to the feminist book *The Hearing Trumpet*. [illegible] Through Oct. 20. **Surprise!** With works culled from [illegible] digital archive of [illegible]. Through Oct. 28. 1201 [illegible] St., Berkeley. 510-558-[illegible]

Mercury 20 Gallery: Glimmer in the Grit With works reflecting Oakland by Jill [illegible]. Through Oct. 28. 475 25th St., Oakland. 510-444-1116, Mercury20Gallery.com.

[illegible] Art Center: Trading Places A group show featuring works by [illegible] staff and artists who selected [illegible] other's artwork for display in the exhibit. Through Nov. 2. 514 23rd St., [illegible] 510-[illegible]

Oakland Public Library Temescal Branch: [illegible] Exhibit With street art-style works by the 12 year old Oakland artist. Through Nov. 30. Main Branch, [illegible]. 510-238-1332, OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] Installation Through Nov. 17. Free. 441 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]

Old Crow Tattoo & Gallery: Stand Tall Pt. III With 30 site-specific installations by as many artists, including [illegible]. Through Oct. 22. 5020 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-834-2769, OldCrowTattoo.com.

PHOTO: [illegible] Photography of the [illegible] woodlands by [illegible]. Through Nov. 10. Free. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-451-0440, PHOTOGalleryOakland.com.

Pro Arts Gallery: [illegible] Oct. 16-30. 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361, ProArtsGallery.org.

Royal NoneSuch Gallery: State of Affairs A politics-themed art show featuring work by [illegible]. Through Nov. 8. Free. 4231 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 815-[illegible], RoyalNonesuchGallery.com.

San Pablo Art Gallery: [illegible] Collaborations by Joy Broom and Susan Sharmee Through Oct. 14. 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo. 510-[illegible], CI.SanPablo.ca.us.

SLATE contemporary: Gamble and Starmer With new work by Joanne Fox. Through Oct. 13. 473 25th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]

Studio [illegible] Featuring recent work by [illegible]. Through Oct. 20. Free. [illegible] St., Oakland. [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery: Beauty in Landscape Featuring works in the gallery curated by Kathy Aoki. Through Nov. 11. [illegible] A video of the artist [illegible]. Through Nov. 11. **Beauty in Landscape** New work from Kathy Aoki and [illegible]. Opening reception [illegible]. Through Nov. 25. Free. 560 2nd St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]

Thousand Oaks Art Gallery: Valley of Death Photographs of Death Valley by [illegible] and [illegible] Brown. Through Nov. 1. Free. 880 Colusa Ave., Berkeley. [illegible]

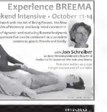
Tree Gallery: Clayton Bailey With works on display by the Port Costa-based robot maker and [illegible]. Through Oct. 31. [illegible] St., [illegible]. 510-[illegible]

Trywick Contemporary: Materials + Process Five artists highlight the gallery program's emphasis on nontraditional materials and media through photographs, [illegible], drawing and collage. Oct. 14-Dec. 22. 895 Colusa Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible], Trywick.com.

Gallery District: Saturday Stroll A weekly complement to Art Murmur but with fewer festivities and more focus on the galleries. Visit OaklandArtMurmur.org for a full list of participating [illegible] galleries. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. 19th St. at Telegraph Ave., Oakland

The Uptown: Third Annual Photo Show Featuring photography by [illegible]. Through Nov. 30. Free. 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-451-8100, UptownNightclub.com.

Vessel Gallery: Manifold With sculptures by John [illegible]. Through Oct. 27. ● With sculpture and painting by [illegible]. Through Oct. 27. 471 25th St., Oakland.



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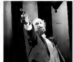
THEATER REVIEW

SONDHEIM'S FREAK SHOW

Shotgun Players' *Assassins* offers a plucky tongue-in-cheek tribute to presidential assassins

By Erika Milvy



The Shotgun Players' rendition of *Assassins* is superb.

"Hey pal. C'mere and kill a president," calls a carnival barker at the Ashby Stage, who invites folks to plunk down a coin, pull the trigger, aim for the target, and win a prize. In *Assassins*, Stephen Sondheim's musical comedy salute to presidential assassins, the top-shelf prize is eternal infamy.

The Shotgun Players have staged a superb rendition of *Assassins*, Sondheim's delectably offbeat 1990 musical. Staged as a grotesque carnival, the production trots out a murderous lineup of sad sacks and misguided misfits who fired on Presidents Lincoln through Reagan. The play asks the question: "Why do it?"

The answers range from treasonous to Jodie Foster. The shooters are bizarre buffoons and poor slobs — some angry, most all them crazy. Tapping into the aesthetics of Edward Gorey, Bertolt Brecht, and Tim Burton, Susannah Martin's inventive production mixes sideshow freakishness, societal disenfranchisement, and human desperation into one big ball of delicious, sickly-sweet cotton candy. Sondheim's play also invokes Kander and Ebb's musical *Chicago*, which used showmanship and razzle-dazzle to comment on the cult of celebrity.

A banjo-strumming balladeer, embodied impeccably by Kevin Singer, sings of the nine men and women who got it in their head to assassinate the president. An old-timey folk singer and a one-man Greek chorus, he sings of these anti-heroes in the genres of country, bluegrass, delta blues, and big-band jazz.

"The Ballad of Booth," a jangly country tune about the nation's first presidential assassin, is both flip and sincere. The song's rhymes and rhythms mock the gravity of the crime and offset the lyrics' otherwise overbearing poetiness. *Angry men don't write the rules and guns don't right the wrongs*, sings the balladeer. Galen Murphy-Hoffman plays the dashing, impassioned John Wilkes Booth, Lincoln's assassin, who scribbles his pro-confederate motives in his diary. *Damn you Johnny/You paved the way*, the balladeer sings. One of the legacies of Lincoln's assassination was that such an idea was now in place.

The assassination of John F. Kennedy by Lee Harvey Oswald (also played by Singer) is the disarmingly [illegible] center of the *Assassins* vaudeville. We've seen the clownish Charles Guiteau, played by Steven Hess, assassinate President Garfield because he wanted to be ambassador to France. We see Sara Jane Moore (Rebecca Castelli) shooting at her Kentucky Fried Chicken bucket as she gears up to shoot Ford. We watch Sam Byck (Ryan Drummond) making a tape for Leonard Bernstein and plotting to bomb Nixon's White House. But it is Oswald's inner turmoil that smartly relieves the flippancy of the play and gives *Assassins* a greater dimension. The play shifts tone to psychological realism as Booth eloquently gives voice to Oswald's hopelessness. Invoking Willy Loman, Arthur Miller's downtrodden Everyman, Booth explains that "attention must be paid." Certainly all these assassins crave attention. By reframing Oswald as a Loman figure, Kennedy's killer takes on a tragic dimension, and the play takes itself seriously for a much needed minute. But just for a minute.

As the ghoulish proprietor Jeff Garrett coaxes his patrons to blow off some steam by shooting a president. A barbershop quartet of assassins harmonically inveigles the disgruntled: *All you have to do/Is move your little finger, crook your little finger and you can change the world.* In "The Ballad of Guiteau," James Garfield's killer marches triumphantly to the hanging noose, singing, *I am going to the Lordy, I am so glad.* Hess is wonderfully bizarre as Guiteau. His Pentecostal hymn bears resemblance to Eric Idle's cockeyed crucifix ditty "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life."

In one of the funniest numbers, John Hinkley (Danny Cozart) and Squeaky Fromme (Cody Metzger) bond over their undying obsessive devotion to Jodie Foster and Charles Manson, respectively. Cozart plays Hinkley as a love-sick sap, hoping to impress the actress by shooting Ronald Reagan. Metzger plays the hippy waif and Manson girl Fromme, who shoots Ford so Manson can get back into the spotlight.

As Sam Byck, Drummond is a more [illegible] Loman figure. Wearing a Santa suit and prone to sing from *West Side Story*, he plots an elaborate assassination of Richard Nixon. Castelli is dazzling as Moore, the eccentric housewife who shoots Colonel Sanders much better than she shoots Gerald Ford. She's the singer with serious chops in this show.

Under David Moschler's deft musical direction, the musical numbers, with an onstage band of trombone, trumpet, bass, and mandolin, are inventive and wonderful. Erika Chong Shuch's choreography and Christine Crook's costumes add to the tantalizing spectacle. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

Show Details

Assassins runs through October 28 at the Ashby Stage (1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley). $20-$30. ShotgunPlayers.org.

THEATER & DANCE

DANCE-PERFORMANCE

Encounter! A voice/dance/theater [illegible] based on a story about [illegible] women. [illegible] inspired by Magsaysay award-winning writer Mahasweta Devi's work and danced for the stage by [illegible] and Aparna Sindhoor. Thu., Oct. 11, 8 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 12, 8 p.m. $20-$25. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Making Space A night of "ritual gaze" and "the right of passage" by members of [illegible] Movement Company, poet, [illegible] Dance Theater [illegible], and dancers of 24/7 [illegible]. Sat., Oct. 13, 8 p.m.; Sun., Oct. 14, 4 p.m. $12-$15. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

LIVE VARIETY

Happy Hour With Magician [illegible] With live piano by Larisa Migachyov, happy hour cocktails, and free [illegible]. Fridays, 6 p.m. Continues through Oct. 26. free. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

Rebel Kings A drag show featuring Vegas Jake, Randy Punk, Stevie Ray, Mickey Finn, Papa Fab, [illegible], Logan [illegible], and more, followed by dancing and [illegible]. Third and first Wednesday of every month, 9 p.m. $5. White Horse Inn, 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3820, WhiteHorseBar.com.

Sex, Slugs, and Accordion A cabaret-style show written by and starring Jet Black Pearl. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 12. $15. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

Acid Test: The Many Incarnations of Ram Dass One-man show about the famed spiritual leader, directed by Joel Mullennax, written by Lynne Kaufman, and starring Warren David Keith. Saturdays, 5 p.m.; Thursdays, Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 18. $12-$50. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

Assassins Sondheim's musical about [illegible] assassins, directed by Susannah Martin. Wednesdays, Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m. Continues through Oct. 28. $20-$30. Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-6500, ShotgunPlayers.org.

Chinglish Leigh Silverman directs the West Coast premiere of David Henry Hwang's Broadway comedy about the cross-cultural errors that ensue on an American businessman's trip to Asia. Saturdays, 2 & 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 & 7 p.m.; Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Through Oct. 21. $14.50-[illegible]. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949, BerkeleyRep.org.

Don Reed's *The Kipling Hotel: [illegible]* Reed's one-man show chronicles his misadventures throughout the 1980s, from [illegible] attempts at working as a stripper and a gigolo to his stint as a live-in waiter at a retirement hotel. Saturdays, 8:30 p.m.; Sundays, 7 p.m. Continues through Dec. 16. $15-$50. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

The Fantasticks Stewart Lyle directs the "longest-running whatever in history." Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.; Thu., Nov. 1, 8 p.m. Continues through Nov. 4. $19-$22. Altarena Playhouse, 1409 High St., Alameda, 510-523-1553, Altarena.org.

Doubt Directed by [illegible]. Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 4 p.m.; Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 21. [illegible]. Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda.

An Iliad: Teen Night Targeted at kids in grades 9-12, with dinner and a pre-show talk included. For more info call Teen Council at 510-647-2972. Fri., Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. $10. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949, BerkeleyRep.org.

Mad Love Drama about seven women and their relationship [illegible] presented as part of the Siren Project's 2012 [illegible] [illegible] Theater through Arts [illegible]. Thursdays-Sundays, 7 p.m. Through Oct. 18. $15-$25. The Vagabond Ballroom, 105 Isabella St., Oakland, [illegible].

The Piano Lesson Ayodele Nzinga directs August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about a post-Depression family struggling to decide whether to sell a priceless family heirloom—a piano carved with the faces of their enslaved ancestors. Fridays, Saturdays, 7 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through Oct. 14. $10-$25. Sister Thea Bowman Memorial Theater, 920 Peralta St., Oakland, 510-238-1902.

Theatre performance for *An Iliad* A [illegible] Award-winner Lisa Peterson. Opening October 17. Starting Oct. 12. Tuesdays, Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sun., Oct. 14, 7 p.m. Continues through Oct. 18. [illegible]. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-647-2949, BerkeleyRep.org.

The Vagina Monologues Independent [illegible] Productions and Shakespeare & Samson produces Eve Ensler's iconic play, with a version by [illegible]. Fri., Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 19, 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.; Sun., Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m. $10-$15. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley, 510-841-4824, BFUU.org. ●

PICKS

Dimensions Dance Theater

As artistic director of Oakland's Dimensions Dance Theater for the past 39 years, Deborah Vaughan has pushed the boundaries of African dance through collaborations with artists from Chad to Hugh Masekela. Cuban-born Jose Rajas and Congolese-born Herve Makaya are her co-creators for Dimensions' new show *Down the Congo Line II*, a celebration of dance, drumming, and culture premiering on Saturday, Oct. 13, at Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts (1428 Alice St., Oakland). Rajas' *Of the Island* highlights Cuba's deep connection to the Congo through dance and music, while Makaya's *Vukanu* combines the [illegible] drum, songs, storytelling, and dance styles that originated in Brazzaville, Congo. Two of the Bay Area's best-known drummers, Cuban-born Sandy Perez and local artist Kiazi Malonga (son of the late Malonga Casquelourd), join Cuban and Congolese percussionists to lay down the rhythms. 8 p.m., $15-$25. 510-465-3363 or DimensionsDance.org. —*Claudia Bauer*

Gene Schiavone

Mariinsky Ballet & Orchestra

The jewel of the tsars, the pride of the Soviets (who called it the Kirov), and the training ground of Pavlova, Nureyev and Baryshnikov, the Mariinsky Ballet still reigns as the pinnacle of classical ballet. Founded in the mid-1700s, the company has been performing *Swan Lake* since 1895. Wednesday through Sunday, Oct. 10-14, the current production graces Zellerbach Hall (Bancroft Way and Dana St., Berkeley). The premise is decidedly romantic: Lovely young Odette is cursed to live as a swan — can handsome Prince Siegfried save her? Yet when danced by superb artists like those of the Mariinsky Ballet, it becomes an artwork of tenderness, despair, and beauty — it's no surprise that many of the passages are intact after two hundred years. Tchaikovsky's magnificent score is as legendary as the choreography, and at Zellerbach the Mariinsky Orchestra performs live. Wed.-Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun. 3 p.m. 510-642-9988 or CalPerformances.org. — *C.B.*

LECTURES & LIT

Tribal Justice: The Next Generation

Louise Erdrich's latest novel takes back the reservation night.

Joe Coutts is an unremarkable teenage boy. He and his buddies bike around their North Dakota Ojibwe reservation, sneak beer and smokes when their parents aren't looking, help out at a cousin's sweat lodge to earn extra money, and religiously watch *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, identifying heavily with steely Klingon warrior Worf. They fight and tease each other (Joe's nickname is Oops, a result of his birth being a pleasant late-life surprise), but above all they've got each other's backs. So when Joe's mom Geraldine is brutally raped and doused with lighter fluid in an attempted cover-up, but manages to escape, Joe and his friends don't need words to form their plan. In short order they piece together the details of the crime by eavesdropping on elders, bike to the site of the attack to comb for missing clues, figure out who committed the assault, and bring that person to justice.

Louise Erdrich

The Round House is exceptional storytelling. Taking place during one hot summer in 1988, the story weaves together the reservation's history of familial and political battles — babies adopted into warring factions, Catholic priests banning Native ceremonies, the dissonance between reservation dwellers and residents in surrounding cities — and the present, following the Coutts family in its grief. Louise Erdrich reads from her latest novel, second in a trilogy that began with Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Plague of Doves*, at Peralta Elementary School (460 63rd St., Oakland) on Wednesday, October 17.

The book isn't just a whodunit; it also highlights the devastating effects of violence. "An attack of sexual violence is a crime that affects the entire family," Erdrich said. "For a young person like Joe, it really defines his life. It's so much about what will be for the rest of his life." The story is told in flashback by Joe, as he reflects (with some regret) upon the actions of a young, idealistic boy who would not take no for an answer — from his father and uncles trying to keep him away from the increasingly complicated proceedings around the assault, to the FBI, local, and tribal law enforcement haggling over whose land the crime was committed on, and the ethnicity of the attacker. These questions, Erdrich points out, more than the facts of the assault, are noteworthy as loopholes in the law that leave Native women with few legal options if they are assaulted on tribal land. When non-Native men perpetrate the crimes, few are ever prosecuted.

Erdrich's trilogy (to be continued) is rooted in how injustice works through the generations. Tribal and US governments are still working to get the Tribal Law and Order Act signed into a bill that would restore power to tribal courts, enabling them to try non-Natives for crimes against Natives. Erdrich believes that "there is a damage that's passed down from generation to generation, and the difficulty lies in defining and healing from that. So partly what the book refers to is the legacy that has been left by injustice in the past, and of course this act of injustice. ... I think that speaks for itself." 7:30 p.m., $5, applicable toward book purchase. Sponsored by Mrs. Dalloway's. 510-704-8222 or MrsDalloways.com

— *Alison Peters*

LECTURES

[illegible] A Week Long on the Obsession with Food As part of Litquake, a panel discusses how the term "foodie" became synonymous with obsession. Sat., Oct. 13, 3-4 p.m. free. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

Iraq Ten Years Later: Forgotten Past and Better Future? American journalist David Harris and Iraqi reporter [illegible] discuss their experiences covering the war in Iraq over the past decade. Fri., Oct. 12, 7 p.m. free. Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center, Berkeley.

Marisa Jahn Part of UC Berkeley's Visiting Artist lecture series. Reception to follow with drinks and snacks, in room 160. Mon., Oct. 15, 7:30-9 p.m. free. Wurster Hall, UC Berkeley, Berkeley.

Richard Dawkins: "The Magic of Reality" The evolutionary biologist introduces his book about his graphic science book for children and young adults. Part of the Berkeley Arts & Letters series. Thu., Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m., $7-$16. First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley.

A Special Evening with Author Michael Lewis Author Michael Lewis will discuss his recent *Vanity Fair* article about his six months embedded with President Obama. Wed., Oct. 17, 6-8 p.m. free. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100, BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

Technology, Education and Innovation Industry experts discuss the future of information technology. Moderated by Quentin Hardy, Deputy Tech Editor of The New York Times. Wed., Oct. 17, 7:30-9 p.m. $5-$15. The College Preparatory School, 6100 Broadway, Oakland. 510-652-0111, College-Prep.org.

Zachiah Murray: "Mindfulness in the Garden: Zen Tools for Digging in the Dirt" The author presents ideas from his new book. Sat., Oct. 13, 4 p.m. free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

LITERARY EVENTS

Adrian Tomine: New York Drawings Presenting his new book, a decade-long compilation of comics, illustrations, and sketches from the pages of *The New Yorker* and beyond. Fri., Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m. free. Pegasus Books Downtown, 2349 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley & Oakland. 510-649-1320, PegasusBookstore.com.

A.M. Homes Reading from her novel, *May We Be Forgiven*. Thu., Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m., free. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

Art Beat Writers' Society Writer [illegible] hosts a weekly writing and performance "journal" designed to generate new material and create a sustainable community of Bay Area writers. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., [illegible]. The 25th Street Collective, 477 25th St., Oakland. 510-384-3046, 25thStreetCollective.com.

Black Against Empire Litquake celebrates the launch of the upcoming book *Black Against Empire: The History and Politics of the Black Panther Party*. Sat., Oct. 13, 2-3 p.m. free. David Brower Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-809-0900, BrowerCenter.org.

D. Nurkse and Richard Silberg Reading from their respective collections, as part of the Poetry Flash series. Thu., Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m. free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087, MoesBooks.com.

Davy and Peter Rothbart Featuring a reading of Davy's new book of essays, *My Heart Is an Idiot*, music from Peter's new album, and selections from the [illegible] book of *Found* magazine, which Davy edits. Thu., Oct. 11, 7 & 9 p.m., $6. Saturn Cafe, 2575 Alcatraz Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8595, SaturnCafe.com.

Free Book Exchange Give and get free books of all genres. Saturdays, Sundays, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. free. 510-215-1200, BayAreaFreeBookExchange.com. Bay Area Free Book Exchange, 13520 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-710-1200, BayAreaFreeBookExchange.com.

Holla Back and Speakeasy 88 Thursdays Open mic poetry followed at 11:30 p.m. by dancing, poetry, [illegible] food, live DJs, and more. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., donations accepted. Eastside Cultural Center, 2277 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-533-

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Bars, Clubs & Coffeehouses Magazine

Our annual Bars, Clubs, & Coffeehouses issue is a guide to the wealth of local watering holes, concert venues, and cafes. We'll highlight select trends in a handful of larger stories and publish a detailed guide to the East Bay's dizzying array of places to enjoy a beverage and a show.

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PICKS

Davy Rothbart

Few authors have the ability to rack up such golden glowing reviews from the diverse likes of Kid Rock and *Eat Pray Love*'s Elizabeth Gilbert. But Davy Rothbart is one of them. His memoir *My Heart Is an Idiot* is a rompish collection of short stories about his life, love, travels, and interludes with people he meets along the way. Creator of *FOUND Magazine*, which is dedicated to random found stuff, Rothbart and his brother Peter are touring in support of the magazine's tenth anniversary, stopping by funky spaces to promote the memoir and a new issue of *FOUND*, plus *FOUND*-inspired songs from Peter. They'll stop by Space Lounge at Saturn Cafe (2075 Allston Way, Berkeley) on Thursday, Oct. 11, 7 & 9 p.m., $5. 510-845-8505 or SaturnCafe.com. — *Alison Peters*

Julia Park Tracey

What was it like to be a teenager in the Roaring Twenties? Turns out, not so different as it is to be one today. *I've Got Some Lovin' to Do: The Diaries of a Roaring Twenties Teen (1925-1926)* is the real-life diary of Doris Louise Bailey, which was uncovered by Bailey's grandniece, local journalist and *Alameda Sun* founding editor Julia Park Tracey, who provides the book's commentary, photos, and footnotes. At fifteen, Bailey chopped off her hair, wore shorter hemlines, and took off after one of the many boys that caught her eye. Hear all about it — and more — when Tracey reads at Books Inc. (1344 Park St., Alameda, 510-522-2226 or BooksInc.net) on *Friday*, Oct. 12 (7 p.m., free). The reading will also include a flapper costume contest with prizes. Then on Saturday, Oct. 13, attend a speakeasy cocktail party at Swell Bar (1539 Lincoln Ave., Alameda), where Bailey's honorary drink, The Rebel Girl Cocktail, will make its debut. 8 p.m., free. 510-522-0213 or SwellBarAlameda.com — *A.P*

A.M. Homes

Harry and George Silver are about to experience the true power of brotherly love. Harry has always been the boring, responsible, older one, George the rich, cute, successful brother with the perfect house and two kids, but also with a wild streak that only Harry can temper. So when George loses it one day, his violence goes to such extremes that Harry has to jump into his brother's life, serve as parent to George's children, and pacify the brothers' parents as they navigate their own journey through life — redefining a family in the process. A.M. Homes' *May We Be Forgiven* is not delicate reading, but it charts one family's unraveling, and attempts to rebuild. On Thursday, Oct. 11, at Mrs. Dalloway's (2904 College Ave., Berkeley), 7:30 p.m., free. 510-704-8222 or MrsDalloways.com — *A.P*

Ayelet Waldman

Prisons for men like San Quentin are ones that usually grab headlines, but outside women's prisons there's a whole host of injustices that the general public is not aware of. Mental, physical, and sexual abuse, false HIV diagnoses, nonconsensual sterilization — those are just a few of the violations [illegible] inmates share in the new anthology *Inside This Place, Not of It*. Co-edited by bestselling author Ayelet Waldman and Robin Levi, human rights director at Justice Now, the anthology includes stories from thirteen inmates who tell how they got to prison and what happened once they were inside. And it's not pretty. Waldman and Levi read from and discuss the book on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at Diesel (5433 College Ave., Oakland), 7 p.m., free. 510-653-9965. DieselBookstore.com — *A.P*

[illegible]

0029. LatinaArtsAlliance.com.
Inside This Place, Not of It Best-selling author Ayelet Waldman and deputy human rights director Robin Levi present their new book about incarcerated women across the US. Wed., Oct. 17, 7-8:30 p.m., free. Diesel, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave., Oakland. 510-653-9965. DieselBookstore.com.
[illegible] Berkeley Rambles: A Kosher Christmas Joshua Eli Plaut's bestselling new book *A Kosher Christmas*, on the myriad ways Jews in [illegible] celebrate the holidays. Sat., Oct. 13, 1-2 p.m., free. Berkeley Collection of Jewish Art and Life, 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-643-2526. Magnes.org.
Louise Erdrich Reading from her new novel *The Round House*. Wed., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m., $5 (applicable to book purchase).
Peralta Elementary, 460 63rd St., Oakland. 510-654-7365. PeraltaSchool.org.
Lyrics & Dirges at Pegasus Books A special [illegible] edition of the bookstore's event. Books featuring prominent, emerging, and beginning writers each month. Sat., Oct. 13, 4-5 p.m., free. Pegasus Books Downtown, 2349 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley & Oakland. 510-649-1320. PegasusBookstore.com.
My Heart Is an Idiot: Found Magazine's 10th Anniversary Tour Celebrating the newest issue of the magazine and its 10-year anniversary. Thu., Oct. 11, 7 & 9 p.m., $5. Saturn Cafe, 2075 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-845-8505. SaturnCafe.com.
The Berkeley Books An exhibition dedicated to poetry and experimental fiction, with a reading desk, recordings of poets, and a chance to take home a book. Books from publishers of [illegible] East Bay political. Through Dec. 9. BAM/PFA, 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.
Rita Williams-Garcia Reading from her novel *One Crazy Summer*. Sat., Oct. 13, 11 a.m.-noon, free. Oakland Public Library West Oakland Branch, 1801 Adeline St., Oakland. 510-238-7352. OaklandLibrary.org.
See The Next Berkeley Poetry Berkeley. Come celebrate the spirit of the SF gender and [illegible] with poetry readings and dinner. The first ten guests to arrive will receive a free copy of the zine. Mon., Oct. 15, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Awaken Cafe, 1429 Broadway, Oakland. 510-863-1448. AwakenCafe.com.

PUBLIC INTEREST

Living Liberally: Drinking Liberally A political discussion group. First and third Tuesday of every month, 6:30-8:30 p.m., free. Spats Monkey Cafe, 1638 [illegible] St., Berkeley. 510-268-0810. SpatsMonkeyCafe.com.
Presidential Debate with George Lakoff Watch the presidential debate with the UC Berkeley professor and co-author of *The Little Blue Book: The Essential Guide to Thinking and Talking Democratic*. Tue., Oct. 16, 6-10 p.m., free. Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. 510-524-9283.

SPOKEN WORD

The Berkeley Slam With spoken word and an improvisational band & DJ. Hosted by Betty Gomez, the Jamar Telfold, Sanca, and Nathalyn Lucas. Cash prizes each week. Wednesdays, 8 p.m., $7. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082. StarryPloughPub.com.
The Gas Candle A weekly open mic for up and coming spoken word artists, poets, and comedians. Sign-up begins at 8 p.m. Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m., free. [illegible] Lodge, 117 Shattuck Ave., Oakland. 510-428-0505. [illegible]Lodge.com.
Poetry Diversified A twice-monthly open mic with featured readers, hosted by poetry ensemble Los Santos. First and third Tuesday of every month, 7:30-9 p.m., free. World Ground Cafe, 3726 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-482-2933. WorldGroundCafe.com.
Second Saturday Prose & Poetry Berkeley Poetry reading and open mic. Second Saturday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957. FrankBetteCenter.org.
Stand Beats Poetry [illegible] for teens 12-18 to perform their original poetry. Second Friday of every month, 7-9 p.m., free. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957. FrankBetteCenter.org.
Written Word Art Open-Mic Night Poets, storytellers, musicians, and all other artists are invited to share their work. Arrive early to sign up. Second and fourth Friday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. PantheonWrittenWordArt.com, WrittenWordArt.com. Zocalo Coffeehouse, 645 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. 510-569-0182. ZocaloCoffeehouse.com.
Youth Speaks Teen Poetry Slam Open mic with poetry and music for youth under 21. The event is free to the public. Second Friday of every month, 7 p.m., free. Pro Arts Gallery, 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. 510-763-4361. ProArtsGallery.org.

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FOOD & DRINK

Fried chicken takes center stage at OB Town.

Chris Duffey

THE PUB LIFE, KOREAN-STYLE

Three Oakland eateries offer a spicy, funky taste of *soju bang* culture

By Luke Tsai

You've probably heard of the *izakaya*, the kind of Japanese pub that by now seems no more exotic than a tapas bar in the savvy food lover's imagination, especially here in the Bay Area. Lesser known is the *izakaya*'s rowdy Korean cousin: the *soju bang*.

While *izakayas* have traditionally been the province of the salaryman, *soju bangs* (literally, "soju rooms") around these parts skew younger, catering almost exclusively to Korean-American twenty- and thirtysomethings: Think bubblegum-sweet K-pop and fruity soju-based cocktails (a version made with the Asian yogurt drink Yakult goes down extra easy). And unlike at an *izakaya*, where the food often aspires to elegance, *soju bang* fare is as down home as it gets — fried chicken, grilled meats, and assorted street snacks.

There are fine examples of the *soju bang* here in the East Bay, up and down the long stretch of Telegraph Avenue that comprises Oakland's diffuse "Kimchi Row," yet by and large these establishments fly under the radar, hidden away on unlikely street corners. But if you've got the stamina for it — and a trustworthy designated driver — you can hit up several in a single night (they're all open till 2 a.m.).

An Oakland *soju bang* crawl might start at the unfortunately named Oriental BBQ Chicken Town (OB Town for short), where plastic tables, paper lanterns, and an indoor "roof" create a tiki-bar effect. No surprise, chicken is the star — thirteen different versions, ranging from "extremely spicy grilled chicken" to several different takes on the uber-crisp double-fried chicken that Koreans are famous for. For maximal crunch, order the standard batter-fried chicken; for a saucier experience, go for the soy-and-garlic-marinated Gan Jung, whose only flaw is that it's sometimes overcooked.

Other crowd pleasers include the garlic fries (frozen steak fries, but loaded with fresh garlic) and the ramen *dduk bok ki*, a street dish that consists of toothsome rice cake sticks, instant ramen, tofu triangles, and a hard-boiled egg — all of it swimming in a bright red, sweet and spicy sauce. Wash it all down with a cold OB or Hite beer, both available in comically oversized plastic bottles.

Next, head over to Kang Tong Degi — if you can find it. The only signage is yellow Korean characters superimposed on big metal barrels, and the building's dingy exterior belies the fact that there's a restaurant inside. (Look for the Chinese restaurant called Big Daddy's next door.)

Even more than Oakland's other *soju bangs*, the place has the feel of a secret club. From the private booths (perfect for handsy young couples and backroom business deals) to the spare decor (papered-up walls covered with Korean and Chinese characters), there's no other way to put it. The place is freaking cool.

Kang Tong Degi is also the one *soju bang* where humble dishes rise to the level of — and sometimes even surpass — the city's better Korean restaurants. Sautéed chicken gizzards were grilled to chewy-crunchy perfection and served with sliced garlic, jalapeños, and lightly charred lettuce. We picked up a little of everything with our chopsticks and dipped it in a thick slurry of sesame oil, coarse salt, and black pepper — an addictive combo.

Then there was something called "cheese corn," a *soju bang* standard: corn kernels (almost certainly out of a can) cooked in mayonnaise and sweet condensed milk — a weird but delicious thing, halfway between a stoner's snack and a dessert. (Avoid OB Town's savory version, made with actual cheese that congeals, unappealingly, as it cools.)

But the pièce de résistance is the spicy ham and noodle stew, which Koreans know as *budae jjigae* or "army stew": a pot of soup filled with every imaginable thing, tofu, kimchi, rice cakes, instant ramen, Spam, hot dogs — I loved it for its ballsy, seamless blend of wholesome and not-so-wholesome ingredients. What sets Kang Tong Degi's version apart is its deeply savory *gochujang* (red pepper paste)-spiked broth. Nothing's more comforting on a cold night.

Finally, end your evening at Kang Tong Degi's sister restaurant, Dan Sung Sa, aka "Porno Palace" — the most well known, and maybe the most raucous, *soju bang* of the bunch. Fortunately (or alas), no porn is involved — the restaurant is actually named after an old movie theater in Seoul, hence the (non-pornographic) movie posters plastered everywhere.

You can, however, order the Porno Fries, a fusion-y riff on chili cheese fries topped with pickled jalapeños, spicy Korean-style barbecued pork, and Velveeta. We also ordered a fried Cornish game hen that had awesomely crispy skin, though the meat was pretty dry at the breast and wings. Still, it was satisfying to pull the bird apart with our bare hands, dipping each bit of meat and skin in a zesty salt-and-lemon pepper blend.

The weirdest thing on the menu is chrysalis soup, a spicy broth chock full of maybe a hundred peanut-size silkworm pupae. I'd read Chowhound accounts that described the dish as resembling "cigarette butts in a watery ash tray" — an experience akin to eating a "very musty sleeping bag." But hey, our waitress said she liked it, so my dining companion and I figured, why not?

I won't lie: This was one of funkiest things I've ever eaten. The little buggers (they really do look like bugs) had the grainy, slightly crunchy texture of dried shrimp and a swampy aftertaste that permeated the whole bowl.

I couldn't manage more than a few bites. But no regrets: If I'm going to eat at a place called Porno Palace, why not step out on a limb, at least a little bit? ◆

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

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Sample Menu

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Kang Tong Degi
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510-658-2998
Hours: Daily 6 p.m.-2 a.m.
Reservations not accepted
Cash, Visa, Mastercard

Sample Menu

Spicy Ham and Noodle Stew	$22.99
Chicken Gizzard	$8.99

Dan Sung Sa
2775 Telegraph Ave., Oakland
510-663-5927
Hours: Daily 6 p.m.-2 a.m.
Reservations not accepted
Cash, Visa, Mastercard

Sample Menu

Fried Whole Chicken	$12.95
Porno Fries	$8.99

[illegible] Cooperative owner Liberty Ship Café in Richmond (coop in the making); Shanta from Other Avenues Food Cooperative in SF; Design Action Collective with their newest member, Ariel; Nabolom Bakery in Elmwood near UCB campus, and Inkworks Press.

The Network of Bay Area Worker Cooperatives (or NoBAWC, pronounced "no boss") is proud to present this 2012 NoBAWC Guide to Bay Area Worker Cooperatives. The purpose of this Guide is to provide basic information and resources about worker cooperatives, convey why they are important for the health of our communities and the economy, show how you can support them, and provide resources for people interested in starting their own worker cooperatives.

In the most general sense, a cooperative is an organization that is owned and controlled by the people who work there or use its products, supplies and/or services. In a worker cooperative, the business is owned and controlled equally by its workers. Although this Guide focuses on worker coops, there are many other cooperative sectors in the United States. These include housing, consumer (including credit unions), energy, agricultural, arts/crafts, and child care. Currently, 1 in 3 Americans are members of some type of cooperative.

So, why publish this Guide? First, 2012 has been declared the Year of Cooperatives by the United Nations as an acknowledgement by the international community that coops create stable and sustainable jobs, reflect and respond to social change, and are resilient to economic crises. Also, October is cooperative month.

1) [illegible] from [illegible] celebrates Gay Pride [illegible] all their [illegible] on wheels. 2) Pedal Express delivers [illegible] local orders, [illegible] up to 300lbs and more. 3) Unified Tech Coop uses video conferencing to stay connected with their member(s) on the East Coast. 4) DIG Cooperative installs rainwater catchment and graywater recycling system.

Second, the Bay Area is unique. We are home to the largest concentration of democratic workplaces in the United States and NoBAWC is the oldest and largest regional worker cooperative organization in the country. There is also a progressive cultural component to the Bay Area, one where many people are willing to patronize democratic enterprises because they see the value of such businesses in their community.

Third, our country is in a unique period in history where there is both outrage over the direction of our economy and growing public interest in worker cooperatives. Stagnant real wages, a falling standard of living for the vast majority of Americans, and growing income and wealth disparities were exacerbated at the end of 2007 by the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. The elite is unwilling to fundamentally address these problems and has responded with austerity measures and an attack on the public sphere. All of this gave rise to the Occupy movement late last year. For the first time in decades the debate about class inequality and capitalism hit the national stage. Occupy's use of participatory democratic structures and its search for a just way to organize the economy dovetail with worker cooperatives. Moreover, the continuing high unemployment of the U.S. recession has catalyzed some people to think about economic alternatives to business as usual.

And fourth, the *East Bay Express* offered to reprint the NoBAWC map (see pages 4-5) as a thank you for helping with their February 26 Progressive Opportunities Conference. We expanded on this offer to produce this Guide.

Worker cooperatives stand as real world examples of just and sustainable economic enterprises. Compared to conventional businesses (especially non-union ones), worker coops generally have better pay and benefits, better working conditions, more job security, better professional and personal development, a positive impact on the community and local economy, and are greener. By supporting them, you help sustain economic democracy in the Bay Area. Please see the centerfold of this Guide for a map of NoBAWC workplaces to support.

What is a Worker Cooperative?

A worker cooperative is an enterprise that produces goods, distributes goods and/or provides services and is owned & controlled equally by its worker-owners. Ownership is vested solely with the worker-owners on a one worker-owner, one vote basis and ownership track must be available to all paid workers (except those who are temporary). Worker control is exercised directly or indirectly by worker-owners. If exercised indirectly, members of representative decision-making bodies (e.g. Board of Directors) must be elected by the worker-owners and be subject to removal by the worker-owners.

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Why Support Worker Cooperatives?

1 **Better Pay & Benefits** Worker coops generally have comparable or better pay (salary/wages plus profit sharing) and benefits than comparably sized conventional businesses in similar industries, especially entry level ones. Worker cooperatives don't have overpaid managers, owners and outside shareholders siphoning money from the business.

2 **More Favorable Working Conditions** Working conditions at worker coops (including stress level, pace, occupational health & safety, etc.) are more humane because those affected by working conditions are empowered to determine them.

3 **Greater Job Security** There is more job security at worker cooperatives because worker owners are involved in making decisions about appropriate and sustainable staffing levels at their workplaces. In difficult economic times, a worker coop is more likely to share the pain fairly by reducing everyone's hours rather than laying off workers.

4 **Better Professional & Personal Development** Worker owners are encouraged to learn multiple job tasks related to day-to-day operations as well as make decisions reserved for managers and owners in conventional businesses. The greater disbursement of knowledge and skills in worker cooperatives leads both to better decision making on the job and to a more skilled workforce.

5 **Positive Impact on the Community & the Local Economy** Worker coops provide sustainable economic development. They supply stable, living wage jobs and money earned stays in the community because worker owners live in the communities where they work and because no resources are diverted to absentee owners or shareholders. The result is greater wealth for local communities and citizens.

6 **More Environmentally Responsible** Worker cooperatives are generally more environmentally conscious than conventional businesses. Many worker cooperatives choose industries that have less environmental impact and many worker coops lead their industries in green practices. The Bay Area has a respected county-run Green Business Program and Bay Area worker coops have a green business certification rate that is 45 times the certification rate for conventional businesses.

Worker Cooperative Q&A

? **Doesn't working in a cooperative take a lot more time? I have family responsibilities and need to balance work with home life.**
Working democratically means that workers assume the responsibilities reserved for bosses in a conventional business. This includes meetings. The frequency of meetings depends on the particular coop. However, meetings are understood as part of workplace responsibilities and incorporated into a reasonable work week. One of the benefits of a worker coop is that workers are empowered to collectively determine their work schedules. This built-in flexibility means that workers in coops are more likely to be able to adjust their work schedules around their other responsibilities. Moreover, coops are more open to workers taking leaves of absence to care for a sick family member without fear of losing their job. Thus, worker coops are often more family-friendly than conventional businesses.

? **Aren't worker coops just for college-educated white people?**
Absolutely not. Although the demographics of Bay Area worker coops are very diverse, there needs to be more effort to bring this model to low-income communities of color. In the last few years, community groups from diverse populations are showing interest in the worker coop model. Why? Because the current economic model ignores certain populations and does nothing to address the enormous wealth disparities between whites and people of color. When jobs come, they are often sparse, low-paying, unskilled, and short-lived. Worker cooperatives provide stable, living wage jobs that bring skills and wealth to neglected communities. Rather than waiting for help from the government, corporate America or philanthropists, worker coops are examples of people taking action to improve their lives.

Worker Cooperative Q&A (continued):

Aren't worker cooperatives limited to low tech industries like grocery stores, bike shops, bakeries, and bookstores?
No. Worker coops represent diverse industries and sectors of the economy and there is no limit to what type of work can be organized cooperatively. Even in more traditional sectors, worker coops incorporate modern technological innovations into their operations. Moreover, small tech coops continue to be one of the fastest growing sectors in the worker coop economy and have even produced a how-to manual for freelance tech workers interested in starting worker coops (see the resource section on page 7 of this Guide). Additionally, larger high tech engineering and fabrication coops exist. For example, Isthmus Engineering and Manufacturing (Madison, WI) designs and builds custom automation equipment and Pioneer Valley PhotoVoltaics Cooperative (serving areas in MA and CT) custom designs and installs solar electric and hot water systems, small wind turbines, and micro-hydroelectric facilities.

If I work in a coop, do I have to check in with 20 people before I can buy paper clips?
A common misconception about worker coops is that every worker is involved in every decision. In fact, there are many levels of decision making and the number of people involved vary depending on the decision. Larger decisions about structure, the direction of the business, and large capital expenditures are made by the worker coop as a whole. The vast majority of decisions, however, are made by smaller groups (e.g., departments and committees) or individuals.

Does everyone have to agree on everything? If so, it must take forever to make decisions.
There is not a single decision-making process used by every worker cooperative. Some use consensus. In consensus, people work through differences and synthesize contradictory ideas so the final decision doesn't violate anyone's fundamental principles or interest in the organization. Others use modified consensus, where if consensus is unattainable, a vote is taken requiring a certain majority to pass. And others use majority rule, either simple majority or a super majority, such as 2/3 or 3/4, to make decisions. In a democratic workplace, good facilitation is critical to keeping decision making and meetings on track. Workers learn skills required to participate constructively in democratic decision making.

If everyone is equal in a worker cooperative, can a poor performing worker be fired?
Discipline and termination are part of worker cooperatives too. Worker coops have probationary periods for new hires, usually lasting between 3-12 months. The purpose of the probationary period is to allow time for the coop and individual worker to get to know each other in order to determine if they are compatible. Although probationary workers participate in the coop's decision-making process, they usually don't have a formal vote until they are voted in as members. During probation, prospective members are periodically evaluated. By the time the probationary period has ended, the coop generally has a clear idea whether or not the prospective member is a good fit. If not, the worker is terminated. If the coop feels good about the prospective worker, s/he is voted in as a full member. If there is uncertainty, the probationary period may be extended. When a worker becomes a member of the coop, there are still periodic performance evaluations. Members who are underperforming are constructively told and given training & time to improve. If they do not, a vote is taken by the membership to determine whether or not to terminate the member. This is never an easy process, but the mechanism exists in every coop. This process is much more transparent and fair compared to most conventional workplaces. In conventional workplaces, decisions about firing are usually made in secret by the owner/managers and fired workers are often surprised with termination. Without a union, there's little recourse for the terminated worker who may have been fired for reasons other than performance.

What about labor unions? Are they relevant to worker coops?
In conventional workplaces, a labor union is usually the only way for workers to collectively exercise some degree of control over their working lives including wages, benefits, working conditions, and job security. This limited degree of control a worker has in a conventional workplace becomes complete worker control in a worker coop. Does this mean that labor unions

continued on page 6

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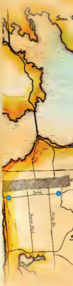

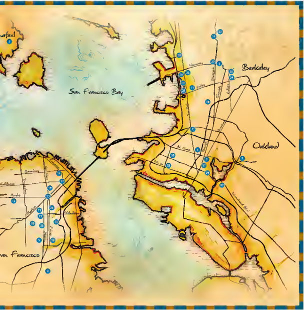
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Worker Cooperative Q&A (continued):

aren't applicable to worker coops? Not exactly. Several NoBAWC member workplaces are also union shops, including Lusty Lady (SEIU), Inkworks Press (Teamsters), and Design Action Collective (CWA). In the case of Lusty Lady, the workers organized a union before buying the company and turning it into a worker coop. In the cases of Inkworks and Design Action, both have been coops since their beginning. Their union affiliations are a reflection that they offer good pay, benefits, and working conditions and that they are part of the labor movement. Union affiliation may also have value in a cooperative as a safeguard to ensure workers are treated fairly by the coop, especially probationary workers who are not yet members of the cooperative. Some unions have been receptive to worker coops for years, including the Industrial Workers of the World, which recognizes worker coops in its Constitution. Other unions have become recently interested in worker coops, such as the United Steel Workers and some SEIU locals, as a way to provide more stable jobs for their members. Worker coops and unions continue to communicate with the aim of working more closely together as two sides of the same labor movement.

? **We're interested in starting a worker cooperative, but the task seems daunting. What do we need to consider?**
Although a thorough discussion is beyond the scope of this Guide, below are the main areas you will need to consider when starting a worker coop. It you are new to coops, it is a good idea to talk with an organization (such as NoBAWC) or individuals who have experience with worker cooperatives. In most instances, you will need to write a business plan that will detail many of the areas listed below.

1) People. People are the most important component of any successful coop. Develop a core group of workers. One or more workers should have experience in the industry in which you want to develop a coop (the more the better). Try to develop a core of people who are in this project for the long haul and who have experience working with each other. If you haven't worked together before, try to work on some small projects to make sure you can work together effectively. A variety of skills are needed, but a strength of a coop is that different people bring different skills to the table.

2) Product/Service & Market Niche. What product or service will your coop provide? If you are relying on local customers, is there a need or desire in your community for your product/service? Pick an industry you have experience in or learn something new if you are interested. Be mindful of existing worker coops in close geographic proximity who are providing similar products/services.

3) Legal/Organizational Structure. A democratic workplace can be a partnership, limited liability company (LLC), or a variety of corporations (C corp, S corp, or cooperative corp). Which entity is right for you depends on your circumstances. Most Bay Area democratic workplaces choose to be cooperative corporations. You will need to write bylaws which will govern how your coop is structured and makes decisions. There is some paperwork with the state (incorporation), county (property taxes) and your city (zoning and business license). Consulting with NoBAWC or an attorney familiar with worker coops is a good idea.

4) Finances. How capital intensive is your industry and how much money do you need to raise to get through at least your first year of operations? Raising money can come from many sources, including capital contributions (worker buy-in), loans/gifts from family & friends, crowdfunding, and commercial loans.

? **We'd like to start a worker coop, but we don't have much money. Doesn't it cost a lot?** People with modest means can start a worker coop, especially in industries that are not capital intensive. One of the benefits of a worker coop is that the workers can pool their resources to accomplish things they couldn't do by themselves. If the individuals starting a worker coop don't have enough money by pooling their resources, where else can they get money? Often, getting small loans/gifts from friends and family is a great way to raise money. Also, crowdfunding is sometimes an option. Keep in mind that creative ways of raising money may violate securities law and be illegal, so talk with an attorney first. If you still require more money, you may need to obtain a commercial loan. Although most banks and credit unions don't understand worker coops, there are some financial institutions that do. Also, worker coops qualify for Small Business Administration (SBA) loans which can offer more favorable terms.

Have additional questions? Contact NoBAWC at info@nobawc.org

About NoBAWC

What is NoBAWC?

The Network of Bay Area Worker Cooperatives is a membership organization comprised of 39 Bay Area democratic workplaces representing about 1,000 workers and is dedicated to building workplace democracy in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. NoBAWC includes small and medium sized workplaces employing from a few to over 250 workers, representing diverse industries and sectors of the economy. Although all are democratic, their legal and organizational structures vary. Most are for-profit while some are non-profit; most provide a living for their workers while some are volunteer run; and many utilize direct democracy while others use both direct and representational structures. NoBAWC is comprised mostly of worker cooperatives, but also includes workplaces that are democratically run despite not being worker owned (such as consumer cooperatives or non-profits that are democratically run by their staffs).

How is NoBAWC run?

NoBAWC practices what it preaches. We are a membership-run democratic organization using modified consensus decision making. We have membership meetings every 5-6 weeks where the general course of the organization is set and where major decisions are made. The two part-time staff people and committees are empowered to execute projects (like this Guide) within the framework set by the membership. Staff and committees are accountable to the membership and the membership has the final say.

What does NoBAWC do?

On a shoestring budget, NoBAWC:

1. Provides support for our members, including:
   - maintaining and sharing information relevant to worker coops
   - providing technical and organizational assistance
   - offering joint marketing, promotional services, and group benefits
   - improving access to financial resources
   - strengthening ties between worker cooperatives
2. Offers free initial consultations, information, and referrals to those interested in workplace democracy, including:
   - individuals/groups interested in starting a worker cooperative
   - conventional businesses interested in converting to a worker coop
   - journalists, filmmakers, teachers, and students interested in workplace democracy
3. Promotes worker cooperatives in our community as sources of meaningful employment, providers of quality goods & services, and as a model of sustainable economic development. This includes:
   - organizing worker coop conferences/events open to the public
   - participating in community events and workshops/skill sharing related to workplace democracy
   - working on the national, state, and local political level to benefit the worker cooperative sector
   - participating in social justice movements such as Occupy and the U.S. Social Forum to promote workplace democracy as an integral part of a just economy
   - speaking in classrooms

For more info, to get involved, or to make a donation, contact NoBAWC at
P.O. Box 24953, Oakland, CA 94623 • (510) 482-4547
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Worker Cooperative Resources:

- Network of Bay Area Worker Cooperatives (NoBAWC): www.nobawc.org
- U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives (USFWC): www.usworker.coop
- California Center for Cooperative Development (CCCD): www.cccd.coop
- Arizmendi Association of Cooperatives: www.arizmendi.coop
- Women's Action to Gain Economic Security (WAGES): www.wagescooperatives.org
- Sustainable Economies Law Center (SELC): www.theselc.org
- *A Technology Freelancer's Guide To Starting a Worker Cooperative*: visit Electric Embers' website link at www.electricembers.net/publications.php
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WHAT THE FORK

PASTRY HEAVEN AT BORGO ITALIA

Plus a "Gangnam Style" progressive dinner

By Luke Tsai

A little past midnight every day, Franco Cambeli rolls into Borgo Italia Bar and Caffè, rubs the sleep out of his eyes, and prepares himself for a long night of rolling dough and whipping cream. As the old Dunkin' Donuts commercials used to say, "Time to make the doughnuts."

At Borgo Italia, Old Oakland's new Italian restaurant, the doughnuts in question are an array of delicate Italian pastries — the same kinds Cambeli prepared at his family's pastry shop in Tuscany for thirty years: ciambelli, a kind of doughnut made from choux pastry that's sliced in half and filled with cream, and little Italian-style beignets.

If you read early previews of Borgo Italia, you might have gotten the impression that the pastry program was an afterthought, but no — the gleaming pastry case is probably the first thing you'll notice when you walk in. By the time the restaurant opens at 7 a.m., it's filled to the brim with a selection of treats that would be the envy of many full-service pastry shops.

There are assorted fruit tartlets, rice pudding cakes, little glass jars of panna cotta and tiramisu (made with house-made cookies rather than pre-bought ladyfingers), and other goodies that vary from day to day.

But the standout is Italy's take on the cream-filled doughnut. Each ciambella ($5) has the wrinkly appearance and the light but slightly chewy texture of a French cruller, and Cambeli's cream filling — a family recipe, available in a several different flavors — is magic: super-smooth, airy, and neither too heavy nor too sweet.

The basic white cream is a mix of whipping cream and homemade pastry cream. Cambeli tops these doughnuts with a bit of caramelized sugar, creating a combination of flavors he describes as "*latte e miele*": milk and honey.

Meanwhile, the beignets ($1.50 each) are mini versions of the ciambelli, except that the cream is enclosed inside the dough — cream puffs, basically. These, too, are available in a number of different flavors. I especially enjoyed the intense espresso oomph of a version filled with coffee cream and the rich eggyness of the eggnog flavor.

Cambeli is one of the restaurant's co-owners, so you'd think he has enough on his plate without also staying up all night making pastries. After all, he also oversees Borgo Italia's overall food program. Fortunately, Cambeli said that he has a capable kitchen staff that is able to pick up the slack so the pastry guru can catch a quick nap in the afternoon. And the restaurant recently cut back its hours so that he now at least gets Sundays off. Regardless, the number of hours Cambeli works each day seems patently unsustainable, but for now he's pulling it off — fueled, he said, by "the passion for the food."

Borgo Italia is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Monday to Saturday, so it's also one of the only late-night takeaway pastry options around town.

Luke Tsai

Borgo Italia's cream-filled doughnuts are magic.

'Gangnam Style' Flash-Mob Dinner

If, like me, you've wasted hours of your life watching the "Gangnam Style" music video, pondered the song's underlying cultural significance, and practiced PSY's signature "invisible horse" dance move in the hopes of finding a socially appropriate time to bust it out — and if, on top of that, you enjoy Asian food and wacky themed cocktails, here's an event that is tailor-made for you. On Wednesday, October 10, Dishcrawl is hosting a Gangnam Style flash-mob dinner event wherein participants will eat their way through three Oakland restaurants and bars and, at an agreed-upon time during each stop, break into dance.

Sarah Kempelen, Dishcrawl's East Bay event organizer, explained that the San Jose-based company takes the time-honored tradition of the progressive dinner — a dinner party in which each course is prepared and eaten at a different person's home — and applies it to a restaurant context. Typically, participants will visit a succession of four different restaurants, sit at big communal tables, and sample two or three dishes at each place.

The cost of a ticket covers food, tax, and tip; drinks can be purchased with cash on site. Dishcrawl negotiates a price with each restaurant and then charges customers enough to make a small profit.

Wednesday's "crawl" will kick off at 7 p.m. at Va's Restaurant, move onto Ozumo, and then finish up at Era Art Bar and Lounge. Tickets are $25 and are available online in limited quantities, via DishCrawl.com/dishcrawl/301.

The specific food offerings will be a surprise, though Kempelen stressed that all of the options are relatively "safe" and that allergies and dietary restrictions can be accommodated with advance notice. Often, restaurants serve fun off-menu items — for instance, Era will be selling a special Gangnam cocktail that its bartenders have created.

In terms of the flash-mob element, attendees are encouraged to dress up "Gangnam style" — whatever that means to you. A team from the travel review site Gogobot will be on hand to lead the actual dancing — in the meantime, it wouldn't hurt to get in a little bit of practice. ●

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

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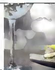

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RESTAURANTS & CAFES

Korean Restaurants

Bowl'd
1479 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-526-0223. Determined to take the intimidation factor out of Korean food, co-owners James Oh and Chi Moon welcome diners of every stripe with a hipster-ish ambience, a detailed English-language menu that features infinite possibilities for customization, and a huge quantity of vegan and vegetarian options. Along with fleshy faves such as Korean BBQ and beef tartare, Bowl'd also offers meatless stews, meatless bibimbap, meatless small plates, and more. Kimchi is made fresh daily here, and finds its way into banchan side dishes, a fabulously intense fried rice, and a kimchi stew served in a helmet-size, too-hot-to-touch stoneware dolsot pot brimming with mackerel broth, stretchy clear sweet-potato noodles, chewy rice-cake "petals," onions, beef bits, and a Sargasso Sea of fiery fermented cabbage. It's comfort food, but Korean-style comfort can be as spicy as you like. $$

Casserole House
4301 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-6061. Vegetable and tofu entrees supplement a menu packed with fleshy entries including barbecued bacon, pan-fried mackerel, and "spicy cow intestine sauteed with vegetables" at this latest venture by a longtime restaurateur who has been operating Bay Area eateries since 1970. The house specialty is Korean casseroles, *jungol*, mixtures of meat, vegetables, noodles, and more cooked to burbling perfection atop tableside burners. Fishbowls inform the sunset-colored spicy broth in which many entrees bask, lending them a complex richness. Yes, many dishes are quite spicy here, but rather than simply assault the mouth, this hotness serves to bring other flavors alive, suddenly spotlighting subtleties you might otherwise miss. It's the burning road that brings you to a higher place. $

Don Sung So
[illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]. If you can't read Korean, you're probably driven past this watering hole without knowing what it was. Movie posters are plastered all over the exterior and interior, and scores of drunken people have left their mark on the walls. There's no better place to go if you want to throw back a few sojus and consume spicy food like kimchi stew, stir-fried "pot pickle" noodles, and chicken wings. Just be warned: No one walks through the door before 9 p.m. $$

FuseBOX
2311-A Magnolia Ave., Oakland, 510-444-3100. Chef Sunhee Chang has transformed a seven-hundred-square-foot space in a starkly industrial West Oakland neighborhood into a bustling gem of a lunch spot. The menu riffs on Korean and Japanese bar fare: Chang's version of Korean fried chicken is reminiscent of buffalo wings, except crispier and without the goopy sauce. His pork belly- and mayo-laden Banh torta is as decadent as any porchetta sandwich. Best of all are the restaurant's creative *banchan* (little side dishes), which come with any combo set. On any given day, the spread might include several varieties of Chang's excellent house-made kimchi, a panoply of tiny pickled things (shiitake mushrooms, green mango slices, carrot logs), and more. Equally impressive is how affordable the food is — everything under ten bucks, tax inclusive. $-$$

Han Yang Korean Bar-B-Q Restaurant
22385 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 510-886-7752. Han Yang doesn't have a non-smoking section. Not that anyone is lighting up cigarettes — all the action revolves around tableside pits of charcoal that fill the air with carbon fumes. Han Yang's high-quality meats and abundant, pungent side dishes make for one of the East Bay's best Korean barbecues. Its soups, some of them containing more offal than most Americans consume in a year, and its *bibimbap* also earn raves. $$

Jung Sa House
3[illegible] Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-7658. It's impossible not to overeat here. You order one entrée and it comes with twelve little dishes filled with pickled vegetables, salads, dried fish, and other delights — and they're good, too. While the standard grilled meats are fine, let the servers steer you toward more unfamiliar stews, soups, and sautéed dishes, especially those containing fish. Vegetarian choices are limited but tasty. $$

Kong Tong Dego
[illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]. This signless Korean restaurant is hard to find. Look for the silver barrels over the door with yellow Hangul lettering — it's worth the hunt. Inside, wood-paneled booths are filled with twentysomething hipsters drinking *soju* and frying pork belly, steak, and intestine on iron griddles, then wrapping it in rice noodles (get a combo) with miso soup and rice wine. Don't worry about translating Korean-only items unless you're really adventurous. The friendly waiters will tactfully show you how to cook and eat everything. $$

Koryo Wooden Charcoal Barbecue
4390 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Simply one of the best, most authentic Korean restaurants in the East Bay. Folks come to Koryo to grill their meats at the table — one whiff of the well-smoked restaurant and you'll request your own brazier. The stews and sautéed items are great, too. Prices are reasonable, considering that entrées come with myriad little white dishes containing kimchi and other pickled, marinated, and seasoned vegetables. $$

Ohgane Korean Restaurant
3915 Broadway, Oakland, 510-594-8300. Ohgane is the kind of place where you can take your mother. And your grandfather. And your thirteen cousins and their kids, too. This Korean barbecue is big enough for several football teams to grill their own kalbi, chicken, and octopus. The quality of the barbecued meats, stews, and all the little side dishes is quite high. But when fourteen families decide to hold their reunions there, the servers can't keep up. $$-$$$

Oriental B.B.Q. Chicken Town
[illegible] Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]. Call this place a restaurant for lack of a better word. It's more like an overgrown *pojangmacha*, a Korean snacks-and-soju stall. This is now a late-night fave of Cal students, a place to chill to some K-pop, cheap beer, and the unalloyed finger pleasures of Korean fried chicken. The regular version is a mix of wing joints and boneless pieces that undergo a two-step process, rendering fatty skin and crisping the minimal breading. With its red-chile glaze, the variation called *yang nyeom* chicken is a sticky tribute to pleasure. $-$$

Pyung Chang Tofu House
4701 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-658-9040. Looking a little like a Korean diner, Pyung Chang specializes in *soon dubu jjigae*, spicy soft-tofu stews. The beef and mixed seafood stews are particularly good, and vegetarians will find dishes to suit their needs. If you're not sure how to eat your stew, don't worry: the waiters will be happy to [illegible] you around. $$

Sahn Maru Korean BBQ
4315 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-653-3366. Though the menu lists barbecue, you won't find charcoal grills spewing smoke in the atmosphere of Sahn Maru. The restaurant specializes in Korean soups and stews, such as a kimchi soft tofu soup and a show-stopping, unique goat stew with sesame leaves and scallion. Some of the other grilled and steamed meals can vary in quality, but the pan-fried fish, pancakes, and myriad side dishes hit their marks. Prices are high, but so is the quality of the service. $-$$

Sonwon Barbeque House
2400 Telegraph Ave., Oakland

RECENTLY REVIEWED

Trattoria La Siciliana
2993 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-1474. Despite the fact that the local food cognoscenti rarely mention it, Trattoria La Siciliana remains wildly popular sixteen years after it first opened. The secret, in part, is garlic — tons of garlic, nowhere more prominent than in the intense *olio della nonna*, the complimentary dipping oil that starts your meal. Clearly this is a restaurant that aims to bowl you over, to sock you in the face with flavor. And if you order wisely — sticking mostly to seafood dishes and Sicilian specialties — it's likely you'll be won over. Highlights include a seasonal heirloom-tomato salad that's amped up with olives, capers, and anchovy fillets; the *bucatini chi finocchiedu*, whose saffron- and currant-based sauce speaks to Sicily's Moorish influence; and, most heroic of all, the *taste a tre* linguine with its unusually addictive lobster-infused fresh tomato sauce. $$-$$$

Cafe Q
2512 Central Ave., Alameda, 510-521-8868. The banner of Good Local Ingredients sometimes feels like little more than PR babble, but when the stars align, you end up with something like Alameda's Cafe Q, an unpretentious order-at-the-counter spot serving the kind of soulful home-style dishes you don't have time to cook at home. Chef Jesse Baumstetter takes American comfort food classics and spruces them up with a dash of Latin flavor and precise, labor-intensive French technique. Highlights on the menu include the roasted-poblano-spiked turkey meatloaf (a twist on *albondigas*), the slow-braised baby-back ribs, and the pulled-pork confit sandwich — a delicious and elegant invention of Mexican carnitas. The main dining area in back is cozy and quaint, the perfect place to linger for a couple hours with a good book or an old friend. $-$$

MLK Café
4860 Martin Luther King Jr. Way #102, Oakl., 510-450-0600. You could drive past this cafe a dozen times without realizing that the place serves African food — much less hard-to-find Eritrean breakfast dishes and gluten-free pizza. Viewed from the street, the restaurant could pass for any neighborhood sports bar. But chef-owner Amanuel Ghebremedhin's food — a mix of traditional Eritrean cuisine and American standards like pizza and burgers — is worth seeking out. The traditional African dishes, served with a choice of homemade *injera* or rice, are solid enough. And the pizza, especially the potato and pesto pie, is surprisingly good. But perhaps the most interesting meal to eat at MLK Cafe is breakfast. The *kitcha fit-fit* (spicy, chewy balls of homemade dough) and the Eritrean-style "frittata" (a plate of light, super-juicy scrambled eggs) make a spectacular introduction to the breakfast foods of East Africa. $-$$

Casa Jimenez Family Restaurant
4345 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-842-8770. Run by the [illegible] in Los Mexican [illegible] store and the [illegible] in the parking lot, Casa [illegible] is a bright, goodly [illegible] restaurant with a secret weapon — possibly the best carnitas (pork browned in its own fat) in the East Bay. Like many carnitas specialists, Casa Jimenez claims to prepare these porky flavor bombs in the Michoacán style, but it's one of the only places we know of that roasts its carnitas in the oven, resulting in meat that's crispy, tender, fatty, and everything in between. Ask for the fantastic corn tortillas, which are super-thick and almost too hot to touch, with an intense fragrance. Also worth ordering, the comically huge *chimichanga* (a deep-fried burrito) and the smooth and smoky house-made *flan*. $-$$

Jalisco Restaurant
1721 Fruitvale Blvd., Oakland, 510-536-8596. Jalisco is the OG of the local carnitas game: a family-owned institution dating back to the late Sixties. Open weekends only, the restaurant is the definition of a hole in the wall: little decor to speak of and long tables not so different from the kind used for church-basement potlucks. But oh, those carnitas: whole pork legs slow-braised in lard for eight to ten hours, resulting in meat that's exceedingly tender. If you're even moderately daring, order the "mixed" plate, which comes with a little of everything that gets cooked with the legs: extra-juicy rib meat, little flecks of skin, chewy-fatty slices of the pig's stomach, and gelatinous bits from the tendon and hoof. Also noteworthy: the [illegible] and the [illegible]. Go early: otherwise, the best cuts of pork could be gone. $-$$

510-834-5767. The restaurant half of this barbecue-slash-poolhall looks ominously industrial, with roaring fans suspended above every table. But they suck the smoke out of the air so you can focus on the grill-it-yourself meat, not your decreasing lung capacity. Besides barbecue, get Sarawon's crisp seafood-and-veggie pancakes, palate-singeing seafood stews, or one of a half-dozen variations of the rice-bowl *bibimbap*. $-$$

Seoul Gom Tang II
3801 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-597-0989. You may have trouble finding Seoul Gom Tang II, since the sign is in Korean — look for the LED sign in the window of a tiny building on the corner of MacArthur and Telegraph. Almost everyone in the restaurant is Korean, too, and they're all sitting in front of mammoth bowls of noodles. The steaming bowls are filled with gut-warming beef noodle soup, and the shallow ones with [illegible] around the rim hold [illegible] buckwheat noodles in chilled beef broth, a summer favorite. $

Spoon Korean Bistro
1031 Ashby Ave., Berkeley, 510-604-4555. When Chi Moon and Jeanet Oh opened Solano Avenue's Bowl'd, their mission was to make lesser-known Korean dishes — things besides Korean barbecue — accessible to an American audience. They've kept the same philosophy for Spoon Korean Bistro, their lower-priced, more casual sister restaurant. Spoon is one of the only places in town where you can eat Korean food at 11 o'clock in the morning, but the restaurant's many elegant variations of *juk* (Korean rice porridge) and its labor-intensive and fresh-veggie-filled *kimbap* (Korean-style sushi rolls) hit the spot at any time of day. The restaurant also serves an array of street-snack-inspired small bites and — yes — some pretty good barbecue. $-$$

Yuyu Za Zang
3916 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-653-2088. Larry Yu, a Korean-born Chinese chef, opened this cheery yellow cafe on Telegraph to sell Chinese-Korean noodle dishes like his dad used to make — namely *jam pong*, a spicy noodle soup, and *ja jang myun*, black-bean sauce noodles beloved by children all over Korea. The appeal is all in Yu's thick, chewy homemade noodles. Yuyu's Chinese-Korean food is pretty standard fare, except for the show-stopping pork and vegetables in mustard sauce, a multilayered platter of meat, vegetables, poached seafood, and bean-paste noodles. $

Price Key
Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately: $ — up to $10 per person; $$ — $10-$25; $$$ — $25-$50; $$$$ — more than $50

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The deck at Nature Friends overlooks the entire city

Ellen Cushing

LAST CALL

THE MOUNTAIN IS FREE

The Germanness of Nature Friends cannot be overstated

Ellen Cushing

There are an awful lot of misconceptions about lederhosen floating around these days, and they really ought to be cleared up — this according to a man named Peter, whose lederhosen, it should be noted, are indeed quite nice. Peter is very emphatic once you get him going on the subject, and also it turns out, spectacularly wasted, which is good for the emphaticness. First: The lederhosen's pronounced all wrong most of the time — it should be with a long a and a soft i, like lay-dah-hos-en and not like le-der-hos-en or lead-er-hos-en. Second: They're actually quite comfortable, despite all those straps and flats and buttons you'll see on the fancier pairs. Third: While leather is traditional, they can also be made from cotton or twill or pretty much anything else. Which is nice when your traditional German Oktoberfest happens to fall on a seventy-plus-degree Oakland day.

There are certain moments that feel not quite real, and listening to a drunken 80-year-old explain his pants to you is one of them. It's the kind of thing that happens a lot at Nature Friends, because the place itself feels not quite real, or at least not quite like it should exist in this place in this century. You really need to see to understand, but as a start: Nature Friends is part of a 1,800-city organization founded by German and Austrian expats all over the world, and intended to essentially give blue-collar workers access to the wilderness. Their motto is "*berg frei*" — the mountain is free. The Oakland version was founded one hundred years ago way up high in the hills near Joaquin Miller Park. Peter has been a member all his life. It's an unquestionably lovely little plot of land. Lots of trees, an extremely Alpine-looking lodge, a raft of forest-green picnic tables, and a wooden deck built into the hill and overlooking the city. And the Germanness cannot be overstated. This place is to the kind of hiply/vaguely Bavarian "beer hall" you'd find closer to the city as, I don't know, the ACTUAL WILD WEST is to a saloon-style bar, or really, as any real thing is to its themed counterpart — uncooler, maybe, and harder to understand sometimes, but also completely, charmingly the best ever.

The signs at Nature Friends are all in German, to the extent that you might have to wait until someone more knowledgeable than you enters or exits a bathroom to figure out which to go into; the closest ATM, the Oktoberfest invitation warns, is two miles away. The food comes gloppy and porky and copious on a paper plate buckling with its own weight, not a cutesy garnish or a vegan option in sight, and there's exactly one beer on tap, and it's not particularly fancy: Spaten lager, which the volunteer barkeep explains is like the Budweiser of Germany, though "you know, still a lot better than Budweiser." There are lots of children and lots of older people and hardly any hipsters. Music is provided by a traditional German band doing mostly polkas and waltzes, though they did allow for a rendition of the venerable chicken dance — suffice it to say, you haven't had your heart broken into a million joyous pieces until you've seen ten to twelve men in lederhosen do the chicken dance with their grandchildren — as well as exactly one contemporary German hit.

And then it was time for a toast — it is almost always time for a toast at Oktoberfest, it seems — and all the Nature Friends got up, kids and grown-ups, and plastic cups full of beer and the whole big forest laid out so far ahead you could kind of forget civilization even exists, and singsonged, in words an impressive number of them seemed to understand: "*Eins, zwei, drei, g'suffa/Zicke-Zacke-Zicke-Zacke/Hoy Hoy Hoy!*" That's Peter's favorite part. ●

Oakland Nature Friends, 5115 Butters Drive, Oakland.
TheNatureFriendsCorporation.org/Oakland/index.html.
Open for various special events; see website.

Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Bold Garden N. Prescott craft beer, fine sausages, [illegible] Cookings, vintage cars, art, and more. Saturdays, 9-5 p.m. Free. Classic Cars West, 411 29th St., Oakland. 415-0264155, ClassicCarsWest.com.

Food Off Broadway With rotating food trucks including fine [illegible] Bay Area Breakfast Truck, Cambria's Catering, Go Streatery, Breads of India, Pile of Flour and more. Fridays, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 12. 510-614-6340. EFoodOffBroadway.com. Studio One Art Center, 365 45th St., Oakland. 510-597-5027. StudioOneArtCenter.net.

Street Food Tuesdays With food truck-inspired small plates served in a restaurant setting. Tuesdays, $3-$8. 800-551-7108. Paragon Restaurant, 41 Tunnel Rd., Berkeley. 510-549-8585. ParagonRestaurant.com.

"Tagine" Moroccan Pop-Up Night With Moroccan food prepared by chef Zouhair Karam. Every fourth Thursday, 6-11 p.m. Queville Cafe, 3020 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-2233. QueVeCafe.com.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus family activities. Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Alameda Farmers' Market, Haight Ave. at Webster St., Alameda.

Albany Solano Market With local, seasonal produce and prepared foods. On Solano Avenue (between San Pablo Avenue and Adams Street). Wednesdays, 3-7 p.m. Continues through Oct. 31. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org.

BAHIA Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m., free. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Bay Area Hispano Institute for Advancement, 1718 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510-525-1463. BAHIAinc.org.

Bayfair Center Farmers' Market Fresh produce supplied by local organic and Berkeley farmers. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-357-6000. ShopBayfair.com.

BYA Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m., free. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Berkeley Youth Alternatives, 1255 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-845-9010. BYAYouth.org.

Frances Albrier Farm Fresh Market Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m., free. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albrier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St., Berkeley. 510-981-5250. CI.Berkeley.CA.US.

Fruitvale Farmers' Market With locally grown and produced fruit, vegetables, bread, pupusas, and more. Accepts WIC and EBT. Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-535-6898. Fruitvale Village, 3401 E. 12th St. (at Fruitvale BART), Oakland. 510-534-8001. UnityCouncil.org.

Grand Lake Farmers' Market The weekly market hosts more than 70 produce, prepared foods, and arts and foods farmers. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 800-897-3276. SplashPad.org/farmersmarket.html. Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lake Park Ave., Oakland. 510-238-7275. OaklandNet.com/Parks/Parks/Default.asp.

Hayward City Hall Produce Market A farmers' market featuring family-grown and produced foods from over 35 farmers and specialty food purveyors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 800-897-3276. AgricultureInstitute.org. Hayward City Hall, 777 B St., Hayward. 510-583-4000, CI.Hayward.CA.US.

Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market With farmers selling locally grown California produce at the main entrance to the hospital. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market With vendors selling fresh, all-organic fruits and vegetables. Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Kaiser Oakland, 3801 Howe St., Oakland.

Kensington Farmers' Market With a mostly fresh market, an organic chocolatier, tree products, fresh wild fish, fruits and vegetables, nuts, Market Stand, Market Stand and seasonal surprises. The market also hosts live music and entertainment. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-847-0811. KensingtonFarmersMarket.org. Colusa Circle, off the Colusa Circle, Kensington.

Laurel District Farmers' Market With certified organic produce from J&P Organic Farm and a youth-run prepared food booth called the Purple Lotus Cafe. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-482-1888. FoodCommunityCulture.org. Laurel District Farmers' Market, 4173 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.

Montclair Village Farmers' Market Featuring organic produce and prepared foods. Free parking in Village Garage at the top of La Salle Avenue. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. MontclairVillage.com/farmers_market.html. Montclair Village, LaSalle and Moraga Aves., Oakland.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market With breads, Bay Area foods, all-organic produce and more for sale, along with special programs and events. WIC and EBT accepted. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St., Berkeley.

North Oakland Children's Hospital Farmers' Market [illegible] Fridays, 2-7 p.m., free. 510-250-7557. [illegible] Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd St., Oakland.

[illegible] Farmers' Market With a weekly cafe and [illegible] produce from Bay Area [illegible]. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. PhatBeetsProduce.org. Phat Beets Saturday Farmers' Market, 542 [illegible] Ave., Oakland.

Oakland Community Produce Stand With organic local produce, free samples, and cooking demonstrations. Wednesdays, 2-5:30 p.m. Continues through June 28. West St. Stand via Peoples Grocery, 875 45th St., Oakland. 510-652-2220.

Old Oakland Farmers' Market Farmers' seasonal produce. Breads, oils and foods, organic, along with plenty of samples. Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Old Oakland Farmers' Market, 9th St. between Broadway and Clay St., Oakland. UrbanVillageOnline.com/markets/old-oakland.

Pacific Coast Jack London Square Farmers' Market With seasonal produce, greens, nuts, freshly baked bread, pastries, cut flowers, specialty foods, yoga classes, live music, and arts and crafts for kids. Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. PCFMA.com. Jack London Square, 0 Broadway, Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market With fresh, locally grown fruit, live chickens, eggs, and other produce. WIC and SNAP accepted. Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., free. RichmondFarmersMarket.org. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. and Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Richmond Main Street Farmers' Market With fresh fruit and vegetables, baked goods, and a range of other agricultural and culinary products from local farmers. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-236-4049. RichmondMainStreet.org. Foods Plaza, 13th Street and Nevin Avenue, Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-981-5050. CI.Berkeley.CA.US.

South Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh produce and other food for sale. Tuesdays, 2-6:30 p.m. South Berkeley Farmers' Market, Adeline and 63rd sts., Berkeley. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org.

Temescal Farmers' Market California certified farmers offer seasonal products, dried fruits and nuts, fresh ranch eggs, baked goods, locally caught fish, fresh-cut flowers, and more. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 510-745-7100. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market, 63rd and Adeline streets, Berkeley. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org.

Youth-Led Farm Stand The fresh food stand, in the heart of the Foothill Square neighborhood, features seasonal produce from regional farmers and urban gardens, along with dry goods and nutrition-related products. At 10700 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Mondays, 3-6 p.m., free. FoodCommunityCulture.com. ●

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Harvest Festival

Travel back in time to the pre-digital age. A two-day Harvest Festival at Ardenwood Historic Farm (34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont) on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 13-14 features country-style food and old-fashioned fun. Family-friendly activities include Indian-corn and popcorn harvesting, corn-crib stocking, cider-pressing, blacksmithery tours, train rides, and more. Feast alongside the historic farm buildings, and bring bags in which to carry home the fruits of your harvest. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., $5-$8. 510-544-2797 or EBParks.org. — *Anneli Rufus*

ELECTING MARY JANE: MARIJUANA AUTHOR PANEL AND BOOK SIGNING

Saturday, October 13, 2012, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Oaksterdam University
1600 Broadway, Oakland
FREE Admission!

New Mexico journalist **Doug Fine** author of 2012 hardcover *Too High to Fail* (Gotham Books, a division of Penguin)

San Francisco journalist **Martin Lee** author of 2012 book *Smoke Signals* (Simon & Schuster)

San Francisco journalist **Clint Werner** author of 2011 book *Marijuana Gateway to Health* (Dachstar Press)

NORML Deputy Director **Paul Armentano** co-author of 2009's *Marijuana is Safer: So Why Are We Driving People to Drink?* (Chelsea Green updated 2011)

With additional expert guests.
Moderated by *East Bay Express* contributing writer, David Downs, syndicated columnist for "Legalization Nation"

Three states mull pot legalization in 2012, do any of the state ballot measures stand a chance? Where does California's ballot initiative stand? How did Oakland become an epicenter of the medical marijuana movement? What does the latest research say about the potential health benefits and risks of cannabinoids? "Electing Mary Jane" assembles four leading authors in the field just in time for the 2012 general election

Doors open at 5pm.
FREE admission.
Oaksterdam University appreciates donations.
Book sales and signing. Light refreshments, merchandise and prizes will be offered.
Non smoking event.

Refreshments provided by
Harborside Health Center licensed medical cannabis dispensary

EAST BAY EXPRESS

MOVIES

MY FILLUM. LET'S KILL 'EM.

When Irish eyes are bulging (*Seven Psychopaths*) sure 'tis like the 1980 Iranian hostage crisis (*Argo*)

By Kelly Vance

Marty (Colin Farrell) and Billy (Sam Rockwell) kidnap pets for ransom in *Seven Psychopaths*.

It's fall now, the 3-D robot epics have gone away, and Hollywood can finally return to one of its favorite styles of screen entertainment, the Quentin Tarantino imitation. Case in point: Martin McDonagh's exasperatingly predictable *Seven Psychopaths*.

As we're all surely aware, McDonagh is a celebrated playwright/screenwriter/director of the Hibernian persuasion. The 42-year-old London native, son of immigrant parents from Sligo and Galway, has mined the twin Irish enthusiasms for gibberish and malice to great effect in the Leenane Trilogy (three stage plays produced in 1996 and 1997) and his first American-set production, 2010's *A Behanding in Spokane*. McDonagh's specialty is combining the craic of a loquacious saloon encounter with a swift crack in the teeth — eloquent mayhem, with all the literary trimmings.

Naturally his shift in focus from the Western Eire outback to Left Coast USA has much to do with "fillum." *In Bruges*, a delicious portrait of a pair of donkey-eared hit men played by Colin Farrell and Brendan Gleeson, was one of the best movies of 2008, even if McDonagh had trouble ending it — one of his recurring difficulties. Not for him the subtleties and social conscience of a Neil Jordan or a Ken Loach. McDonagh wants to go upside our heads and make us laugh about it while our ears are ringing. (Thank you sir, may we have another?) To that he brings a curious fetish for animals — *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* features a killer who adores his cat — and a taste for the tried-and-true trappings of Hollywood hipsterism. That brings us inevitably to *Seven Psychopaths*, his all-American come-out roll for the multiplexes, one of the most heavily advertised releases of the season.

Marty (played by Farrell) is a dim-bulb Irish moviemaker would-be screenwriter who can never quite find the handle in L.A. His faltering screenplay functions as a story within the story: the tale's septet of violent weirdos comes from his imagination, with help from his pals Hans (Christopher Walken) and Billy (Sam Rockwell), a pair of losers who make ends meet by kidnapping pets and then collecting the rewards. On their rounds they make the mistake of grabbing the wrong mutt, Bonnie, a Shih Tzu belonging to a hood named Charlie Costello (Woody Harrelson, unusually one-dimensional). Dem he muss kill dem.

Seven Psychopaths
Written and directed by Martin McDonagh. With Colin Farrell and Sam Rockwell. Opens Friday

Argo
Directed by Ben Affleck. With Affleck and Alan Arkin. Opens Friday

Along for the bumpy ride come retired serial killer Zachariah (Tom Waits, with pet rabbit), Marty's squeeze Kaya (Abbie Cornish), Charlie's goons (Zeljko Ivanek and the perennially authentic Kevin Corrigan), a character called "The Quaker" (Harry Dean Stanton), and a pathetic victim named Sharice (Gabourey Sidibe from *Precious*), most of who arrive at the same unfortunate conclusion. It is as if all the odds and ends left over from a "typical" Tarantino project were swept up in a dustpan and dumped into one oafish crime yarn without a second thought. Everything they do, everything they say is as flat and stale as yesterday's spud pancake.

There are redeeming facets. Rockwell is the best thing about the movie, singing McDonagh's putdowns with giddy abandon. Walken and Waits weather the storm with their usual professionalism. Farrell, sad to say, plays at a mere suggestion of his *In Bruges* power. In all fairness, a different complexion comes over the "dark comedy" in the last quarter, with Rockwell's campfire ravings in the desert, but by then it's too late.

The scenario is not nearly absurd enough. If that's the way McDonagh wanted it — we can only guess his intentions, a bad sign for an "important" movie. Is it a parody? A spoof? Robert Rodriguez — not to mention Guy Ritchie — would be ashamed to present something so bald on ideas as *Seven Psychopaths*. In the end it makes us appreciate Tarantino, if we were looking for new reasons at this late date. As for the whiz lad from Camberwell: Better luck next time, boyo.

As an actor and filmmaker, Ben Affleck has never been shy about portraying himself as a hero. His new vehicle *Argo* — a putative true tale from the background of the US-embassy hostage crisis in Tehran, Iran in 1979-80 — ups the ante by having him portray a CIA agent who drops in with a crazy cover story and rescues six embassy staffers while making monkeys of the natives. In other words, it's the definition of far-fetched popcorn-patriotic heroics. How could this movie be anything other than an oddity? It was probably doomed in the concept stage.

The six men and women who escape out a side door when angry anti-American crowds storm the US embassy on November 4, 1979 flee to a Tehran apartment and are hiding there when the CIA calls in Tony Mendez (Affleck), a shaggy-haired specialist in the art of "exfil," aka exfiltration, the military term for extraction — as in getting the escapees out of Iran past the violent, militant revolutionaries who, perhaps justifiably, tend to view all Westerners as spies.

After the usual inter-agency razz-jazz, Tony's plan takes a wacky turn when he hits on the idea of posing as a Hollywood filmmaker scouting locations in Iran for an upcoming production (a sci-fi pic called *Argo*) in order to enter the country under the cover of the Canadian government, then to sneak the six frightened people out somehow. Real film folks sign on, including comic producers played by John Goodman and Alan Arkin, who comes close to stealing the movie (as usual) despite dropping from sight in the second half.

Once Tony gets inside Iran and contacts the six, the former potboiler history lesson fizzles down to a race against the clock, with nonstop cross-cutting and unfortunately too few of the comic touches that made the similarly positioned *Charlie Wilson's War* so much fun. Director Affleck, working from a screenplay by Chris Terrio adapted from a *Wired* magazine article by Joshuah Bearman, relies on the procedural action to carry the story home. It does, routinely, and once again the "Great Satan" triumphs. The apoplectic Revolutionary Guards may be ferocious, but they're easily deceived — as we learned when President Clinton, seventeen years afterward, declassified the mission's details in 1997. It might have been interesting if *Argo* had been made by an Iranian director, but the "fake movie" shenanigans would probably have never occurred to the likes of Jafar Panahi or Mohsen Makhmalbaf. Only an American could have baked that cake. ■

Kelly.Vance@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, go to EastBayExpress.com or scan the QR code. Capsule reviews are written by J.R. Jones (J.J.), Ben Sachs (B.S.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to Ellen.Cushing@EastBayExpress.com

OPENING

Argo Ben Affleck's [illegible] Iran. More than we needed to know about the 1979-80 US Embassy hostage crisis in Iran, courtesy [illegible] Affleck, who casts himself as a resourceful CIA "exfil" specialist with a daring plan — to rescue six American Embassy staffers who escaped rampaging hordes [illegible] in Tehran, and then to smuggle the six out of the country disguised as a Hollywood film crew scouting locations for a wacky-but-spurious sci-fi movie called *Argo*. Writer Chris Terrio's screenplay (adapted from Joshuah Bearman's *Wired* magazine article) abounds [illegible] superficial resemblance to the nutty-but-true character in *Charlie Wilson's War*, but with most of the snark drained out of it. And we're left with a routinely tense procedural race against the clock. The nice comic character work by John Goodman and Alan Arkin — as movie producers arranging the dummy "production" — is forced to take a backseat to the national security heroics. Should have been the other way around. (120 min.) (K.V.)

The Paperboy What a [illegible] tale Lee Daniels, the maker of the powerful 2009 character study *Precious* — has wrought. On one level it's an appropriately lurid parody of drive-in exploitation flicks, set in South Florida and featuring John Cusack as the accused killer of the local sheriff, Matthew McConaughey and David Oyelowo as Miami newspaper reporters investigating the case, Zac Efron as the McConaughey character's slightly unhinged younger brother, and Nicole Kidman as a flamboyantly slutty trial groupie. On the other hand, it may well be a real, honest, Southern Gothic — a hunk of [illegible] dripping with sweat and lowdown and [illegible] populated by exotic [illegible] from unpredictable writer-director Daniels, via Pete Dexter's novel. Then again, it may be a none-too-subtle allegory on race relations in the 1960s. Whatever it is, Daniels' swampy landscape is ripe with style: playful camera, rhythmic editing ([illegible] must have watched a lot of Ann-Margret 1960s), [illegible] needle-drop music cues, etc. What does it all mean? How much time have you got? Also with [illegible] and the [illegible] Macy Gray as Anita the housekeeper, also the black conscience in a story of decadent white folks. (106 min.) (K.V.)

Searching for Sugar Man Documentary about a forgotten 1970s musician who, unbeknownst to him, has become a folk hero — and a legit rock [illegible] in contemporary South Africa. Directed by Malik Bendjelloul. (86 min.)

Seven Psychopaths Martin McDonagh, the [illegible] playwright-turned-filmmaker whose [illegible] violent [illegible] 2008's *In Bruges*, steers further out on the [illegible] with this exasperatingly predictable crime yarn about a slow-witted Hollywood would-be screenwriter (Colin Farrell), his constantly seedy friend (a wonderful Sam Rockwell), a suitable dour Christopher Walken, a pissed-off hood (one-dimensional Woody Harrelson), and assorted [illegible] played by Tom Waits, [illegible], Kevin Corrigan, Abbie Cornish, Harry Dean Stanton, Gabourey Sidibe. In all, McDonagh's first American-set film project is a bit better than most [illegible] Tarantino imitations, but that's all it really amounts to, [illegible] McDonagh's snappy patter and Rockwell's [illegible] hamming. Not nearly absurd enough to compensate for the overworked tough-guy [illegible]. Is the London-born, Irish-identified wise-guy ready for the Hollywood fast lane? Maybe next time. (109 min.) (K.V.)

Sinister Horror film about a true-crime writer discovering his house's violent past. Directed by Scott Derrickson; written by Derrickson and C. Robert Cargill; starring Ethan Hawke, Juliet Rylance, and James Ransone. (110 min.)

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Searching for Sugar Man

ONGOING

Arbitrage *Arbitrage* opens on a warm family scene. Good-evil hedge-fund manager Robert (Richard Gere) shares a birthday dinner with his wife and children, reveling in the love of his family and the imminent sale of his company. It's an enviable, candle-lit vision of the good life — and its hollowness is quickly revealed when Robert [illegible] to visit with his gap-toothed French [illegible]. Because Robert's business [illegible] are as shady as his personal ones, turns out, and as [illegible] and a cover-up [illegible] good-guy [illegible] when he implicates a young black man in his crimes, it becomes clear that Robert's only loyalty is to his money. Rich people are the worst. *Arbitrage* is so schematic it might as well come with a set of blueprints; every plot point neatly converts to real-world application. There's not a trace of ambiguity or moral uncertainty here — the take-away is simply that cause and effect function differently for rich people. Money [illegible] all of Robert's actions [illegible] consequences. *Arbitrage*'s observations are [illegible], certainly, but also hard to [illegible] unless for some reason you're trying to [illegible] your [illegible]. (100 min.)

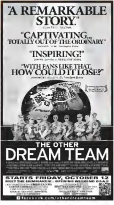
Beasts of the Southern Wild It has the contours of a dream, this weird, wonderful family story by filmmaker Benh Zeitlin. Six-year-old Hushpuppy, played beautifully by first-timer Quvenzhané Wallis, and her head-strong father Wink (Dwight Henry, also a non-actor) live a precarious existence in a Louisiana Gulf Coast wetlands village called the Bathtub. Surrounded by colorful [illegible] neighbors and [illegible] by nightmares of thundering horned animals. But big changes are coming. The child's adventures — adapted by Zeitlin and Lucy Alibar from the latter's stage play *Juicy and Delicious* — take on the trappings of a fairy tale, a child's point of view of a place even the most prosaic grownup would find disorienting. The character portrait is filled by perfectly cast amateurs, and the music (scored by Zeitlin and Dan Romer) is superb. A one-of-a-kind experience. (91 min.) (K.V.)

The Dark Knight Rises From its [illegible] to its [illegible] the Gotham Exchange to the pseudo-Roman grandeur of the infamous "people's court," Bane (Tom Hardy) will face [illegible]. Director Christopher Nolan tries his best to put a stamp of [illegible] on the comeback of Batman/Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale again). He more or less succeeds. A cabal of scheming Wall Street [illegible] tangles with muscular [illegible] Bane and his army of [illegible] for control of Gotham City, and they both meet [illegible] with Batman, Catwoman (Anne Hathaway), Alfred the butler (Michael Caine), and police commissioner Gordon (Gary Oldman). It takes its time, and there are some strangely flat action scenes. The movie is also dead humorless [illegible] a total ten minutes' worth of humor in its two-and-a-half-hour-plus running time. Because of its piano-wire overtones, director Nolan's screenplay (written with brother Jonathan Nolan) is more interesting to discuss than to actually watch. But of course you have to see it at this [illegible] about it, and if you really [illegible] this is the final Batman adventure. I've got some slightly used kryptonite I'd like to sell you. Also with Marion Cotillard, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Morgan Freeman, Juno Temple, Matthew Modine, and Liam Neeson. (164 min.) (K.V.)

Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel Documentary about the life and work of the fashion magazine editor. Written and directed by Lisa Immordino Vreeland, Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt, and Frédéric Tcheng. (86 min.)

End of Watch Los Angeles police officers Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Peña shoot, punch, and overact till the cows come home in this amped-up contemporary policier by filmmaker David Ayer. The action is bracing and virtually non-stop as Brian (Gyllenhaal) and his partner Mike (Peña) [illegible] South Central chase crime to the end of the trail of a drug cartel, and it's the [illegible] that makes the cop-worshipping drama tick. What writer-director Ayer's scenario lacks is a [illegible] for our heroes to react against. All the best LAPD movies (*Colors*, *L.A. Confidential*, *Rampart*) have them — but frequent LA crime filmmaker Ayer (*Training Day*, *Dark Blue*, *Harsh Times*, *Street Kings*) decided to let the whole city be the bad guy, with nervous handheld POV camera shots galore. Not quite the perfect cop movie, but it's worth a look. Costarring Anna Kendrick, Natalie Martinez, [illegible], and America Ferrera. (109 min.) (K.V.)

Frankenweenie If we had to visualize a completely "typical" Tim Burton movie, in the most sympathetic sense of the term, this black-and-white 3D animated fantasy about a boy who resurrects his dead pet dog — an elaboration and expansion of a 1984 Burton short — would be it. The misadventures of young Victor Frankenstein, his schoolmates, and their pets make the ideal Burton show: a combination of grotesquery and humor that's a hundred times more evocative than a live-action version could ever be. The creature feature work by [illegible] and Peter Sanders [illegible] screenplay (story by Burton and Leonard Ripps) captures the same innocent spirit of *Edward Scissorhands* and there are [illegible] galore to Burton's favorite movie [illegible]. Starring the voices of Catherine O'Hara, Martin Short, Martin Landau, Winona Ryder, Atticus Shaffer (the



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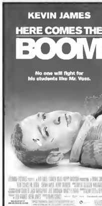
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SONY

for Everything the perfect "family horror" movie should be. (87 min.) (K.V.)

Hotel Transylvania It's a resort for monsters, far away from the enemies, the humans. The owner is Dracula (voice of Adam Sandler) whose adolescent 118-year-old daughter Mavis (Selena Gomez), also a vampire. Someone smitten with a human backpacker named Jonathan (Andy Samberg) who inadvertently drops in and is forced to masquerade as a monster to avoid being [illegible]. The lavishly produced Sony [illegible] comedy's message is perhaps one of tolerance: the living and the living dead really can meet and fall in love. Aww. The visuals were obviously inspired by the work of Tim Burton; the story line is welcome to any pre-teen [illegible]. Lotsa fart, poo, and pee jokes for the kids, and there's a twilight gag for the grownups. Perfectly [illegible] directed by veteran TV hand Genndy Tartakovsky from a story and screenplay written by five [illegible]. (92 min.) (K.V.)

House at the End of the Street Horror tale about a mother and daughter who [illegible] move next door to a haunted house. Directed by Mark [illegible] starring Jennifer Lawrence, Elisabeth Shue and Max Thieriot. (101 min.)

Looper [illegible] nominally a time-travel/action movie [illegible] is scary smart, but (unlike with, say [illegible]) you won't spend its runtime trying to glue together its logic. You'll just be enjoying the [illegible]. All you need to know to enjoy Looper is that actions have consequences [illegible] and Looper is an [illegible] movie. But Looper is "just" an [illegible] movie the same way [illegible] "just" a [illegible] as The Brothers Bloom was, and a Good Film. [illegible] written and directed by Rian Johnson, and with a cast [illegible]. Johnson appropriates the [illegible] of a genre, then fleshes it out in astonishingly [illegible] ways. (118 min.)

The Master It's the end of World War II, and ex-sailor Freddie Quell (Joaquin Phoenix) is an [illegible] who shakes his own booze out of [illegible] and rubbing alcohol. He's also vengeful, hypersexed, and perhaps (or perhaps not) an evolutionary [illegible]. Something needs to give, and so enters Lancaster Dodd (played by Philip Seymour Hoffman), the "master" of a startup religious/self-help cult called "The Cause" (played by Scientology). For Dodd, Quell is the perfect guinea pig, an "animal" who, once his "Master Process" is revealed through tests, study, and psychological torture, will hopefully graduate to a higher form of [illegible] the kind of man we were meant to be. One is tempted to [illegible] The Master to the [illegible] counterpart to a juicy Vanity Fair hit piece – the more [illegible], one quickly realizes that Anderson is reaching for much more than [illegible]. The Master is a gorgeously [illegible] meditation on human need: the need to be self-aware, the need to be accepted, the need to be loved. As much as drunkard Quell needs to make peace with his past, Dodd needs to be accepted, respected, and appreciated for what he believes is the nature of the human species. In the end, what each of Dodd's characters receives speaks more about humanity and religion than any one-note exposé could ever hope to accomplish. (137 min.)

Moonrise Kingdom [illegible] Wes Anderson sensibility (The Darjeeling Limited, The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou) frames the tale of Suzy (Kara Hayward) and Sam (Jared Gilman), a pair of precocious teenage runaways who give everyone on the New England island of New Penzance a chance [illegible] Anderson's precious dialogue [illegible] and the story (by Anderson and Roman Coppola) are extremely [illegible] little [illegible] purpose. Might have been better as an animation à la Fantastic Mr. Fox [illegible] art direction is [illegible] more [illegible] than the story. But then we would have to miss out on Bill Murray, Frances McDormand, Tilda Swinton, Jason Schwartzman, Harvey Keitel, and Bob Balaban as various [illegible] figures. Come to think of it, that might not be such a bad idea. A step backward for Anderson. (97 min.) (K.V.)

The Oranges Thanksgiving weekend, that great nerve-wracking holiday [illegible] teenagers, young adults, and anyone else who needs to avoid group hugs, gets turned upside down for two families in suburban West Orange, New Jersey when Nina (Leighton Meester), a [illegible] and single twentysomething, throws herself at fortysomething David (Hugh Laurie), her parents' best friend and neighbor [illegible] and David [illegible]. Too bad the narrative [illegible] after that. The fact that David is married (Catherine Keener plays his wife) and his daughter (Alia Shawkat) is Nina's [illegible] only rubs salt in the wounds. It also reinforces the [illegible] notion that The Oranges is a fairly ordinary [illegible] TV style [illegible]. Compared to the [illegible] of Todd Solondz (Dark Horse, Welcome to the Dollhouse), [illegible] Julian Farino's debut [illegible] written by Ian Helfer and Jay Reiss [illegible] is the blandest vegetable in the Garden State. Oliver Platt and Allison Janney are also among the wasted cast. (90 min.) (K.V.)

The Other Dream Team Documentary about the Soviet-era Lithuanian basketball team's trip to the Olympics. Directed by Marius A. Markevicius; written by Jon Weinbach and Markevicius. (89 min.)

The Perks of Being a Wallflower Everyone has seen this scenario a million times [illegible] writer-director Stephen Chbosky's adaptation of [illegible] a certain [illegible] protagonist, a bookish freshman named Charlie (Logan Lerman), [illegible] of [illegible] sophisticates who [illegible] (Ezra Miller and Emma Watson), and [illegible] teens, who all look about 25. The three principals have what it takes to make us follow them around gladly, and the [illegible] hazy past, defined by the presence of David Bowie [illegible] and The Rocky Horror Picture Show [illegible] warm, and reassuring, if that's what we're really in the mood for. (103 min.) (K.V.)

Pitch Perfect Musical comedy-drama about a college a cappella singing group. Directed by Jason Moore; written by Kay Cannon and Mickey Rapkin; starring Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow and Rebel Wilson. (112 min.)

Resident Evil: Retribution Umpteenth installment of the sci-fi action series, this time following heroine Alice (Milla Jovovich) as she continues to fight against the sinister Umbrella Corporation. Written and directed by Paul W.S. Anderson, starring Sienna Guillory and Michelle Rodriguez. (95 min.)

Samsara Balinese dancers, a volcano, ruins of various civilizations, masses of humanity doing everything from manufacturing to factory farming to [illegible]. Filmmaker Ron Fricke's visual [illegible] is solidly in the Koyaanisqatsi mode [illegible] and surprises here, except that [illegible] image-making technology has improved a lot since Godfrey Reggio's [illegible] 1982 [illegible] doc. Presented in Panavision Super 70, Samsara demands viewing on the largest

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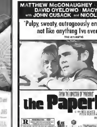
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The Paperboy

exclusive series. Conclusions: 1) Belief systems are many and varied; 2) The Earth is overpopulated; 3) Life is not fair, but then it is. Beautifully photographed, co-written, and co-edited by Fricke, who performed similar duties on Reggio's original. (99 min.) (K.V.)

Sleepwalk With Me Actor, playwright, and stand-up comic Mike Birbiglia engagingly plays himself in this story of [illegible] about a desperately unfunny comedian, and it's either a rip-off on the Andy Kaufman style of awkward faux, or one of the most embarrassing performances ever [illegible] produced. Birbiglia's character Matt has the vocal delivery of someone who has inhaled too many industrial solvents. The more he tries to either [illegible] his girlfriend Abbie (Lauren Ambrose) and his parents (Carol Kane, James Rebhorn), the more Matt is driven into the dollar-ninety-eight stand-up life in a string of Danish bars and auditoriums. He's rotten, and we don't know whether to laugh, cry, or simply leave. But finally we're released. Directed by Birbiglia and Seth Barrish. (80 min.) (K.V.)

Taken 2 Sequel to the 2008 thriller; this time the former Bryan Mills (Liam Neeson) and his family is taken hostage in Turkey. Directed by Olivier Megaton; written by Luc Besson and Robert Mark Kamen. Also Famke Janssen and Maggie Grace. (91 min.)

Trouble With the Curve Sports drama about an aging baseball coach (Clint Eastwood), his adult daughter (Amy Adams), and one last recruiting trip. Directed by Robert Lorenz; written by Randy Brown; also starring Justin Timberlake. (111 min.)

V/H/S For some of us, the appreciation of a horror/fantasy film is directly proportionate to the professional skill of the production. The slicker and more polished the production values, the better. Conversely, homemade/handheld/found-footage/amateurish fiction [illegible] this tiresome [illegible] provide anything but weary tedium. They're typically lazy, sloppy, and indulgent projects with bad writing. A team of [illegible] hooligans breaks into an old dark house and episodically encounters weirdness, thrown in turn by one of six guest filmmakers. We've liked Ti West's work in the past (*The Innkeepers*, *The House of the Devil*) but we're anxious to pick it out in this week's anthology. With Calvin Reeder and Adam Wingard. (115 min.) (K.V.)

Won't Back Down Feel-good drama about two mothers working to fix their kids' failing school. Directed by Daniel Barnz; written by Brin Hill and Barnz; starring Maggie Gyllenhaal, Viola Davis, and Holly Hunter.

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com

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(3D) FRI SAT SUN 12:45 3:00 7:15 9:15
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ONE NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY OCTOBER 11

The Bride of Frankenstein (75 min., 1935) (El Cerrito, 7:00)
Bless Their Little Hearts (84 min., 1984) Preceded by short *The Pocketbook* (13 min., 1980). L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema (PFA, 7:00)

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12

Bitter (93 min., 2012) Superb Films. (Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley, 7:00, 9:00)
Invaders from Mars (78 min., 1953). An Army of Phantoms: American Cinema and the Cold War (PFA, 7:00)
Pickup on South Street (80 min., 1953). An Army of Phantoms: American Cinema and the Cold War (PFA, 8:45)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Under the Roofs of Paris (92 min., 1930). In French with English subtitles. Grand Illusions: French Cinema Classics, 1928-1960 (PFA, 6:30)
Les grandes manoeuvres (106 min., 1955). In French with English subtitles. Grand Illusions: French Cinema Classics, 1928-1960 (PFA, 8:15)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14

Harp of Burma (116 min., 1956). In Japanese with English subtitles. Life Is Short: Nikkatsu Studios at 100 (PFA, 4:00)
Storm Warning (93 min., 1951). An Army of Phantoms: American Cinema and the Cold War (PFA, 6:15)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

The Last of the Haussmans (180 min.). National Theatre Live (Elmwood, 7:00)
La collectionneuse (90 min., 1931). In French with English subtitles. Grand Illusions: French Cinema Classics, 1928-1960 (PFA, 7:00)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17

Unwavering Spirits (34 min., No. 2), With Monitor from Sutherl at Ostion, introduction by UC Berkeley film professor Jeffrey Skoller. Alternative Visions. (PFA, 7:30)
Pier Sands (87 min., 2011). (Humanist Hall, 7:30)

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Christopher Walken Tom Waits [illegible] Cornish
SEVEN PSYCHOPATHS
(2:30 4:40) 7:10 9:40 R
12:[illegible] Show Sat & Sun [illegible]
[illegible] – USA Today
INTOUCHABLES
(2:20 4:40) 7:00 9:20 R
12pm Show Sat & Sun Only!
DETROPIA
(5:00) 7:30 NR [illegible]
[illegible] Show Sat & Sun [illegible]
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THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER (PG-13)
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PIEDMONT 4186 Piedmont Ave. at 41st, Oakland
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SLEEPWALK WITH ME (NR)
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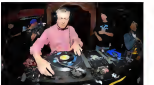
MUSIC

REMEMBERING MATTHEW AFRICA

The legendary DJ was known for his encyclopedic knowledge of breakbeats.

By Eric K. Arnold



Matthew Africa spinning at Disco Volante's 45 Session.

ERIC ARNOLD

On September 3, legendary Bay Area DJ Matthew Africa was tragically killed in a car accident while returning from Yosemite with his wife. The death sent shockwaves through the Bay Area DJ community, where Africa had been a mainstay for decades, and reverberated through the blogosphere. Local and national outlets covered his passing. Clearly, Africa was a man who touched a lot of people on a lot of different levels.

His impact on the local music scene was considerable. He was a teacher, friend, and mentor for generations of Bay Area DJs, many of whom went on to become notable in their own right. His legacy includes numerous radio broadcasts, DJ sets at local clubs, mixtapes, and podcasts.

Africa was a crate-digger's crate-digger, known for his encyclopedic knowledge of breakbeats (obscure or rare records sampled by hip-hop artists). Born in Durham, North Carolina, he was raised in the Bay Area and stayed here for most of his life. His deep love of soul and jazz music developed while he was recuperating from an accident that left him confined to a bed for months. During that time, he listened to records over and over, becoming a full-on vinylphile.

While an undergrad at UC Berkeley majoring in African American Studies, he befriended Beni B, who hosted a hip-hop show on KALX. The college station "became the platform/springboard for Matthew to nurture and pursue his passion of music," Beni said.

"At the time Matthew and I met, he was already a connoisseur of funk, soul, and rare-groove records," Beni recalled. "Matthew rarely played his records out, so I invited him down to KALX in October '92 to co-host my radio show."

Through Beni, Africa developed an interest in rap and hip-hop. Later, Africa would host his own show on KALX and work as a vinyl buyer at Amoeba Records in Berkeley. A graduate of UC Berkeley's School of Law, he practiced business and intellectual property law for several years, but music remained his true love. According to an obituary published in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, he eventually quit his job as a lawyer to pursue music full time.

After finding out about their friend's death from Facebook on September 6 — coincidentally the night of "High Life," Africa's monthly party at the Layover — his DJ pals decided to turn the night into an ongoing tribute to him. That evening was anything but somber, as the East Bay DJ community came out in full force to celebrate the life of their fallen brother.

"Matthew Africa was part of the glue that held us all together," said Layover owner Tim Martinez. At Africa's funeral, Martinez said, "Everyone had good things to say about him. None of it was contrived. He was so solid."

Martinez' lasting memory of Africa comes from the last night he played at the Layover in August. Although the music was heavily concentrated on hip-hop and rap, as things were winding down, Africa asked to play one more song. His selection? Neil Young's "Harvest Moon." "I must say, it totally threw me," Martinez said. After the funeral, he told his wife about that final interaction. "She got teary-eyed," he said.

On Thursday, October 4, a second installment of the Africa tribute night took place with an all-star DJ lineup, including Fixture, Malachi, Willie Maze, Tim Diesel, Neta, Mperor, Adal Dee, and B-Cause (who co-produced the "Soul Boulders" mixtape series with Africa). An altar was set up in front of the turntables, with a picture of Africa spinning during the "45 Sessions" at Disco Volante, lit candles, and a basket for donations, with proceeds going to Africa's family. Another picture of Africa, dressed in a suit and tie, oversaw the proceedings from the wall behind the decks.

Show Details
The next High Life happens on Thursday, Nov. 1, at the Layover (1517 Franklin St., Oakland). 10 p.m., free. OaklandLayover.com

That night, Joe Quixx — Latin Soul Brother crew member, original DJ for the *Wake-Up Show*, and Africa's roommate for ten years — invoked Africa's spirit with an inspired set of classic breakbeats, including Captain Sky's "Super Sperm," Incredible Bongo Band's "Apache," Liquid Liquid's "Cavern," and LSG's "UFO."

Quixx first met Africa around 1992, after being introduced by Beni B. "He was the original homeboy who came by when we started the *Wake-Up Show*" — a groundbreaking program in its day, which brought a college radio vibe to KMEL, a 50,000-watt commercial station.

As Quixx remembers, "[Beni] was like, 'Yo, let me bring my man Matt. He got all the breakbeats, blah blah blah.' And [Africa] would just come up and he would come to the DJ booth at KMEL and be like, 'Yo, you want me to play some breaks?'"

Quixx relates how, for a time, the *Wake-Up Show* "became more about breakbeats than it was about rap." Back in the early Nineties, the popularity of crate-digging groups like A Tribe Called Quest and Gangstarr led to a trend of sourcing the original songs sampled by rap acts — which Africa always seemed to have at hand.

"He would always be like, 'What song you want?'" Quixx recalled. "'Oh, Brand Nubian.' 'Oh I got that. No problem. James Brown bop bop bing.' And the phone lines would just go *brrrrrrr!* 'What's that?' People would be calling in all night."

Africa's long tenure on college radio made him a go-to source for many in the East Bay. Among Africa's faithful listeners was Martin "DJ Willie Maze" Arauzo, who later became one of his best friends. "Matthew Africa was just this modern, nice, really square-sounding voice that I heard growing up listening to KALX college radio on my boombox, trying to record rap music," said Arauzo. "... He was like my window to rap music. Recently when he started rocking the Stay Hating podcast, he became my window to rap music again. ... I just knew that I could trust his voice on that. I had learned so much from him already before I knew him."

Africa, Arauzo said, "Was an insanely huge and beautiful archive of music" who would often give his friends records or handcrafted club edits of songs he knew they liked.

Joe "DJ Eleven" Kelich first met Africa in high school more than two decades ago. Via e-mail from New York, Kelich wrote that Africa "taught me more about music in the past 20+ years since then everyone else in my life combined. Matthew's tastes were ridiculously diverse and always informed by whether music was authentic and real, not whether it fit into the narrow conventions of a particular subgenre or the boundaries create by other small-minded [illegible]."

More than just a DJ and a breakbeat aficionado, Africa was "someone who believed in personal relationships, and building them and nourishing them," said Tim Diesel, another of Africa's DJ buddies. "That's something I really appreciated and I couldn't help but feel honored that he would do that." ●

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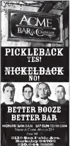

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TREASURE ISLAND GOES CLASSIC

Despite some new frills, this year's fest will emphasize old-school acts

By Rachel Swan

Whereas Outside Lands divides its lineup about evenly between established headliners and new acts, Treasure Island usually skews more contemporary. Last year's lineup included Australian electronic duo Empire of the Sun, Chromeo, Flying Lotus, and Stones Throw crooner Aloe Blacc. Festival organizer Jordan Kurland has characterized it as a curated "boutique" experience.

As the cofounder of local festival juggernaut Noise Pop, Kurland specializes in such things — he and partner Kevin Arnold keep close tabs on which artists come to town throughout the year, who releases a new album, and who might fit well with a Bay Area audience. Even though their partner company, Another Planet Entertainment, is the same entity that books Outside Lands, the two producers stress that Treasure Island is one of a kind.

But this year they've decided to err on the classic side. Sure, the lineup has its share of new blood — garage heartthrob Ty Segall stands alongside the sweetly vacuous pop act Best Coast — but the main draws all hark back to an older, simpler era. Concertgoers born after 1990 might have little context for rappers Chuck D and Flavor Flav, both in their fifties, both brooding over a hip-hop renaissance that happened more than two decades ago. The name of rock band Imperial Teen might be equally foreign. Even the more mainstream acts — Girl Talk and Joanna Newsom among them — have been around for at least a decade.

That might seem like a dicey choice, but Noise Pop spokeswoman Stacy Horne defends it, arguing that the "heritage acts" at Treasure Island all have phenomenal staying power. "Public Enemy, while they're older, they manage to consistently stay relevant," she said. "They put on a phenomenal show. Above all, that's what we're always looking for."

When a band puts forth a good faith effort to keep pace with the times, the delineations between old and new get a little more slippery. And the same goes for bands whose music is good enough to surmount the confines of era and genre. Gossip, a three-piece indie rock act billed to headline the Tunnel Stage on Sunday, is one such example. The Olympia, Washington-based group has been around for thirteen years and has garnered a huge cult following locally, despite its infrequent Bay Area appearances. Horne trusts that Sunday's show will be a fitting reintroduction — Gossip singer Beth Ditto always dazzles.

Show Details
Treasure Island Music Festival happens Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 13-14, Noon-11 p.m. $75-$129.50. TreasureIslandFestival.com

But an emphasis on the past doesn't mean Treasure Island has abandoned the present or the impulse to move forward. Horne points to a few new bells and whistles this year, along with more substantive additions. The most significant of them is a new Front Porch Stage, which is essentially an art car that resembles a porch. Clustered in the cove area of the island to prevent sound bleed from the Tunnel Stage, it will feature young musicians from San Francisco Rock Project on Saturday and a worldish local ensemble called El Radio Fantastique on Sunday.

Joanna Newsom plays on Sunday

Then there's the green technology element. Since its inception in 2007, Treasure Island has always tried to be sustainable, Horne said. That's partly a result of the culture into which it was born — "greening" has been a huge trend in the festival circuit over the past decade — but it's also indicative of the producers' social conscience. Horne said Treasure Island's waste diversion rates continue to go up every year, and now the producers have partnered up with a ridesharing platform, Amovens, which will help lower the event's carbon footprint even more. Such services are particularly useful for Treasure Island. It's monstrously successful — Horne predicts this year's event will sell out as usual — but takes place outside the city center over multiple days. So despite the producers' efforts to accommodate concertgoers with public transit and shuttle buses, they've never quite succeeded in unjamming the Bay Bridge. This year Treasure Island includes a carpool widget on its website, which might help.

New developments or not, Treasure Island very much bows to the dominant paradigm for major music festivals: splitting its bookings into "rock" and "dance" sets, flexing its curatorial muscle, and branding itself as a "multidisciplinary" affair. This year's iteration will feature craft and culinary events, roving performers, workshops, a DIY tent, and even a beauty truck where festivalgoers can get their nails did. It's geared toward people with catholic tastes; it has a wide-ranging definition of what's hip, and its producers carefully keep tabs on current trends. Horne likes to characterize the event as a "multisensory experience," and most fans say that's apropos.

But she and Kurland are still looking toward a lean future — one that's actually more redolent of the past. No wonder Treasure Island's main attraction is a Ferris wheel. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

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SAT 10/13 8:30PM THE LADY CROONERS, TOM RHODES, RIVER SHIVER
SUN 10/14 3:00PM THE BRAZILIAN/INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PROJECT FEATURING SARAVA ZAMBA AND FRIENDS
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CD REVIEWS

CLASH, RATTLE, AND FUZZ

Fist-pumping booty-shakers, heavy beat bombing, and blissful rock.

The Coup

Sorry to Bother You

It's been six years since The Coup last released an album, but it's only about four seconds into *Sorry to Bother You* that it starts to feel like the band never left. That's when frontman Boots Riley issues his first call to consciousness/attention/arms — "Come on kids! Gather round! Listen up!" — and the first song, "The Magic Clap," explodes into sheer punk-funk exuberance, one part Stankonia-era Outkast and one part Bowie circa "Suffragette City," with Riley's trademark smoking-weed-behind-the-gym during the pep-rally snarl punctuated by handclaps, clunky guitars and a chorus of children's voices. The whole thing's so much fun it's hard to tell whether it's a party rap or a political anthem.

Judging by Riley's outspokenness or his involvement with Occupy, or his radical-even-by-Oakland-standards politics, it'd be easy to forget, especially after so long without a new release, that The Coup is, at its core, as committed to solid musicianship as it is to social justice, all about both the booty-shaking and the fist-pumping. *Sorry to Bother You* opens with guns blazing on both counts, and pretty much stays there. Even a song with a title as foreboding as "The Guillotine" still feels, somehow, like a quasi-dance track, and a notably brawnier and bolder set of musical references — Seventies funk and the aforementioned Outkast, to be sure, but also The Clash, The Talking Heads, even TV on the Radio on some tracks — proves that for Riley and Co., both the message and the medium matter. Gather round and listen up. (Anti-)

— *Ellen Cushing*

At Treasure Island Music Festival on Saturday, Oct. 13, 1:30 p.m. $75 for a one-day ticket.

Death Grips

NO LOVE DEEP WEB

NO LOVE DEEP WEB, the second album from Sacramento's indie hip-hop trio Death Grips, comes on like an air raid, a steady bombing of heavy beats that land on frantic, screamed verses. It's an unrelenting attack with rebellion at its core. Death Grips released the album as a free download on October 1 after its record label Epic Records said it wouldn't put it out until "sometime next year," and the cover art is an absolutely not-safe-for-work image of a pink, erect penis tagged with the album's name in black marker. Hours after the album hit the web, Death Grips reported that Epic shut down its site ThirdWorlds.net.

Whether *NO LOVE DEEP WEB*'s release was truly guerilla or calculated public relations, the album lives up to the hype. What differentiated Death Grips when it debuted *The Money Store* earlier this year was its use of hardcore and industrial sounds, an influence likely introduced by drummer Zach Hill of legendary Sacramento noise-rock band Hella. *NO LOVE* is even more confrontational. The minimal electro beats are jarring, with samples of street noise echoing in the background. Even MC Ride sounds exhausted from yelling his lyrics.

Before the listener can grow too weary, "Lil Boy," "Black Dice," and "Lock Your Doors" offer a somewhat consistent melody and respite from the chaos. But "World of Dogs" launches right back into battle: a fuzzy beat like helicopters buzzing as *It's all suicide* is repeatedly chanted. Don't play *NO LOVE DEEP WEB* at a party unless you want to scare off your guests, but do turn to the album for a dose of raw angst when you're having a bad day.

— *Whitney Phaneuf*

Ty Segall

Twins

The outpouring of adoration for San Francisco musician Ty Segall has been about as liturgical as praise can get in the cloistered halls of loud indie rock. *Twins* is Segall's third studio album this year — April saw *White Fence* and June the abrasive and excellent *Slaughterhouse*.

On *Twins*, Segall's guitar turns marbled, droney, and acid-y just when you think he has keyed into a firm rock 'n' roll groove ("Inside Your Heart"). His voice sounds perfectly comfortable singing tight surf rock numbers or even a sweet little pop song. "Would You Be My Love" comes surprisingly close to both, with thick layers of grungy guitars folded in. "Ghost" seals the album back into a rattling, clattering, melodic fuzz fest, with Segall sounding a bit like an outlaw troubadour kicking cans on the side of the road. "Gold on the Shore" sounds like it could have been written by Elliott Smith's (happier) younger bro.

Every time the record delves into softer parts, Segall urgently peels forward with an energy that seems channeled from his influences (he's covered songs by such artists as Brian Eno, Black Sabbath, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and GG Allin). If the so-called "evil space rock" of *Slaughterhouse* was fatalistically cosmological, *Twins* marks a semi-return to Earth: fiery, sweaty, melodic. Taken literally, the word "rock" is elemental, mineral, and holds to a geologic sense of deep time. With a little magic, songs just over three minutes somehow feel vastly longer. Slip into *Twins'* veins and you'll find blissful rock — dirt, grime, and all. (Drag City)

— *Lenika Cruz*

Ty Segall plays Treasure Island Music Festival on Sunday, Oct. 14, 3:35 p.m. $75 for a one-day ticket.

LOCAL LICKS

BY [illegible]

Dogcatcher

It's Easy

For a four-piece with a vast and cluttered arsenal, Dogcatcher sounds remarkably clean. Drummer Ramon Esquivel anchors each track with tidy, exacting snare, and Andrew Howe's aspirated vocals hark back to the sensitive-guy crooners of Nineties grunge. (self-released)

Pinched Nerve

Delusional

Armed with a Casio keyboard and iPod, one-man band Pinched Nerve is both a Luddite and a technophile — someone who fetishizes old gear but also believes that with the help of modern gadgetry any man can be an orchestra. His new album defies all traditional notions of musicianship, including the rule that songs should have structure. Yet he knows how to use irony to preempt criticism. The album's title track is charmingly self-deprecating. (self-released)

Sleepy Sun

Spine Hits: Expanded Tour Version

In some ways this San Francisco garage quintet is indistinguishable from its brethren — grainy guitar riffs, murmured vocals, bedeviling lyrics — but its live show dazzles. The new expanded version of its last LP includes tracks from the group's set at the Biltmore Cabaret in Vancouver. The songs are long, languid, and sometimes frustratingly linear, but there's no question the performance was fierce. You can almost feel sweat vapor wafting from the stage. (The End Records)

At The New Parish (579 18th St., Oakland) on Wednesday, Oct. 10, 9 p.m., free.

Animal Party

"The Sun Will Rise"

Singer-songwriter Kyoshi Foster has abandoned his sensitive-guy origins and made a foray into classic rock, evidently a more viable — if less expressive — medium. His new group traffics in infectious, power-chord-riddled, blues-based songs with lyrics about male ennui. Its single starts with a line about traveling down a country road, but the accompanying video shows an addled hipster boarding a Muni bus. Maybe that's the old Kyoshi Foster seeping through. (self-released) ●

Bay Area bands: show us what you've got. Send CDs to Local Licks c/o the *East Bay Express*.

CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 11

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Stoney Eade and Miss Stuart Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $20.50-$22.50

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Ava Walsh guitar jazz with guest Barbara Rogers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Skip Henderson and [illegible] Walsh Quinn's Lighthouse, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Atlantic Lazy with Sunlighter, The Aunts and Uncle, and Dirty Charge, Night Owl, 9:30 p.m., $7

The Dandies with Bobby Joe Ebola and the Children MacNuggits, Mystic Knights of the Cobra, and Dark Beast, The Uptown, 9 p.m., $10

Lil Loboette happy hour punk piano, Bruno Volume, 5 p.m., free

Roots Beast with Troubadour and Sam Kin, Starry Plough, 9 p.m., $7-$12

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Bambino with Rocando and Open Mic Eagle, The New Parish, 9 p.m., $10-$15

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaetón

Eggplant Sabbath Disco Mamas, 8:30 p.m., free

Bad Jamal Jagoos with Sweetfoot & The Island Machine, Ashkenaz, 9 p.m., $10-$15

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Electric Walsh with Eliot Rose and Patrick O'Malley, Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $8

Classical & Opera

The Capulets and the Montagues New production of the Romeo and Juliet adaptation, with music by Vincenzo Bellini, book by Felice Romani, and direction by Vincent Boussard. War Memorial Opera House, 7:30 p.m., $21-$387

San Francisco Symphony Performs Bach and Mendelssohn Angela Schiff conducts Fingal's Cave, Keyboard Concertos No. 1 and 2, and Symphony No. 3. Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $30-$147

SF Symphony Presents Marcus Walsh Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $15-$140

SFJAZZ Presents Marcus [illegible] Herbst Theatre, 7:30 p.m., $30-$70

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Ana Mandara Trio live jazz, Ana Mandara, 7:30-11 p.m., free

[illegible] Lewis in the lounge, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8:30-10 p.m., free

The Barbary Brothers Le Colonial, 7-10 p.m., free

Performers for [illegible] [illegible] presented by MAKAL Pro-Choice California, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., TBA

SFJAZZ [illegible] Miller Herbst Theatre, 7:30 p.m., $25-$50

SFJAZZ Brothers [illegible] with John Wasey playing Miles Davis, Revolution, 8:30 p.m., $5

Trapeze with Pity Lionshead, The Clowns, Cold Rose, and J Sax J, Manarch, 8 p.m., $6-$10

Rock & Pop

2:54 with Grave Babies, Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 9 p.m., $10-$13

[illegible] with Robert Walter's 20th Congress and Ill Harry [illegible], The Independent, 8 p.m., $25

Great Sandra with Tabitha Arnett, Barbary and Comprador, and Shimmer, The Regency Ballroom, 7:30 p.m., $20-$22

Gappkadio Zaro's, 8 p.m., $50-$60

Proceeds Waters with Penny Howlen, Cafe du Nord, 9 p.m., $10

JJ/T The Brotherhood with Vincent Walsh and Colleen Green, Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $12

Rock-N-Bad Voodoo with Bird Meets La Vice and Teenage Voodoo, Public Works, 9 p.m., $7-$10

Quartet with Death Bat, Bagbody, and Unified Thee Phrasics, 9 p.m., $8

Walsh Ray Vaughan Barbara with Alan Iglesias and Crossfire, Monroe & Bitters, 8 & 10 p.m., $20

Barbara with Strange Folk, pagosone trio, and a Barbara guest, Rainbow Stop, 8 p.m., $13-$15

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Straight Jones playing "Central Avenue" inspired R&B, Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 p.m., $7

Voodoo with Ray Trouble Andrew, and Vays, The Fillmore, 8 p.m., $22.50

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaetón

Bad P Los Mios Mojito, 8:30 p.m., free

FRIDAY 12

EAST BAY

Classical & Opera

Vincent Fraser and Natalie Haas Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $24.50-$28.50

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Archie Shepp Quartet with Tom McElhung, Avery Sharpe, and Steve McCraven, Mina & Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m., $35-$38

Bruno Pollois Disco Mamas, 9 p.m., $5

Rat & 10 Trio featuring Alan Blackley on drums and Hendericks on Bass Jupiter, 5-7 p.m., free

Ava Walsh guitar jazz with guest Barbara Rogers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

The Galloping Sea with Cavernous and Amash Apis Pulmndrama, Starry Plough, 8:30 p.m., $8-$12

Get Off the Stage! with The Barbara Sorta-thing, and Luminous Walsh, Stork, Rock, 8:30 p.m., $8

P.R.O.B.L.E.M.S with Sydney Walsh, Rock Slide, and Great Bruno, Sit n Mix High Club, 7 p.m., $TBA

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Kulture Walsh with DJ Pa [illegible], Humor Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., $5

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaetón

Jama Pone with Franco Hees and guests, The Uptown, 9 p.m., $7.50-$20

Fela Birthday Celebration with Lagos Roots Afrobeat Ensemble, Afrolicious, and DJ Oz, The New Parish, 9 p.m., $12-$18

Mamadou and Voodoo with Barbara Zavala, Ashkenaz, 9 p.m., $12-$18

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Jaya Bruno & Barbara Mandeline Tongan Ribbonvale, 8 p.m.-midnight, free

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Symphony Performs Bruno and Mendelssohn Angela Schiff conducts Fingal's Cave, Keyboard Concerto No. 1 and 2, and Symphony No. 3, Davies Symphony Hall, 6:30 p.m., $37-$148

SF Symphony Presents Marcus/Marcus Walsh Davies Symphony Hall, 6:30 p.m., $15-$140

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Ana Mandara Trio live jazz, Ana Mandara, 8-11:30 p.m., free

Bruno Marcus Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., $10

Eddie Levert Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 p.m., $35-$48

The Jimmy Ryan Quartet Red & Barbara Rocks and Voodoo, 8:30-8 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Barbara B with Tyler Voodoo Island and [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $8

Dark Sea Mandara The Fillmore, 8 p.m., $30

Lil Loboette solo rock Bruno, Mandara Art Bar, 6-9 p.m., free

Boardheads The Regency Ballroom, 8:30 p.m., $17

Ann with Yonat and Her Rock, Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 9 p.m., $12-$15

Fenn with Walsh and Disappearing People, Rainbow Tavern, 8:30 p.m., $10

Journey Bruno with Mandara Bruno and Marina Caviglia, Bruno Club, 8 p.m., $8

Jome and The Rabble with Animal Fitindi and The Jro Project, Boom Boom Room, 9 p.m., $8-$10

Marcus Jones with 8 Flee Formy and Lucy Schwartz, The Warfield, 8 p.m., $25-$37

Barbara Angel with Bask Funeral Grave Sans 8, 9 p.m., $21

The Presets with K. Flay, The Independent, 9 p.m., $45

The Brotherhood with Melody's Echo Chamber, Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $20

Sonorsims with Joey Kanan, Bruno Quitos and Ivey Cloud, Cafe du Nord, 9 p.m., $10-$18

Symphony Pumpkins with Aeboelin, Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, 8 p.m., $52.50

Walsh Ray Vaughan Barbara with Alan Iglesias and Crossfire, Barbara & Bitters, 8 & 10 p.m., $20

Rock Ob Sans with Sic Alps, Sonny and the Voodoo and The Mallard, Great American Music Hall, 8:30 p.m., $15

Tomorrow's Walsh with Marcus, Le Rocket, Citizens and Lescop, Mandara Club, 8 p.m., $15

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Bad Rocket with Left Safe, Lakalai, DJ Dials, Jenly Stars and Mano de la Vega, DNA Lounge, 10 p.m., $25

SATURDAY 13

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Barbaque 'n' Bruno with Jesse by Blue Bone Ebuwah and Quartet by Hot Pink Brothers, Cafe Van Bruno, 9:30 p.m., $10

Mighty Mississippi High Bruno Barbara Cafe, 7 p.m., $10

Tom Mise Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $32.50-$34.50

Classical & Opera

Song of Destiny and Saltroom, Bruno Voodoo and Jannaland, Saint Paul Episcopal Church, 8 p.m., $10-$31

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Johnson Quartet Jannaland, 8 p.m., $12-$18

Eric Vaughn Barbara Piedmont Piano Company, 8 p.m., $15

Sam B Jay Lords of Jazz, 5:30 p.m., free

Bad [illegible] classic jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free

Saturday Quartet Jazz with the Barbara Hunter Quartet, 57th Bruno Gallery, 8:30 p.m., $10

Kids

Los Amiguitos de La Peña Saturday morning sing-along kid's show with live music, La Peña Cultural Center, 10:30 a.m., $6-$5 for kids

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THU 10/11
2:54
GRAVE BABIES

FRI 10/12
FINK
[illegible]

SAT 10/13
SLEEPY SUN
GLITTER WIZARD, JUJU, AL LOVELY & THE [illegible]

MON 10/15
MOLLY NILSSON
LOST ROCKETS, TWIN

TUE 10/16
THE TOUGH SHITS
APACHE, POP ZEUS

WED 10/17
MINUS GRAVITY
[illegible], JAMES CANYON

THU 10/18 FRI 10/19
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WED 10/24
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CONSPIRACY OF BEARDS
[illegible]

FRI 10/26
LILA ROSE
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BUSDRIVER
NOCANDO
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THURSDAY 10/16
WOODS
WHITE FENCE

SEDUCTION FEROCE

THURSDAY 10/19
THE SESREN

SATURDAY 10/20
8TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN BASH

SUNDAY 10/21
KING OF KINGS

MONDAY
VIOLENT CHANGE
[illegible]

THURSDAY 10/25
DEATH ANGEL

FRIDAY 10/26
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Rock & Pop

Bop Along with other guests TBA. B 2-3-4 Cat Records, 7 p.m. $6

Trio Lady Crooners with Tim [illegible] River Shiver. Starry Plough. 9:30 p.m. $7-$12

MindFest 2012 A fundraiser drive in support the [illegible] Army. Memorial Park. 1 p.m. free

[illegible] with The Sunshines [illegible] USA, Urban Wolves, and Good Boy to Die. 924 Gilman. 1 p.m. $60

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

DJ Bell & Dorsey's Locker. 8 p.m. free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaetón

Pasodo, African Airwaves Rhythms Oakland Scottish Rite Center. 8 p.m. $20-$40

Cornelia Vocal Rhythms with Scott Sunday. Subterranean Arthouse. 3 p.m. $10-$20

Joe Bataan Yoshi's Oakland. 8 & 10 p.m. $35-$40

Kabile traditional wedding band from Bulgaria. Ashkenaz. 9 p.m. $12-$15

Rhythms de Pasa La Peña Cultural Center. 10 p.m. $8

pickPocket ensemble Brennan's Pub. 9:30 p.m. $3

Chipiolo Loreto with Diana Maddy and friends featuring Emily Moss. Actual Café. 7 p.m. free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Rhythms East Dogpatch Saloon. 8-11 p.m. free

Hootenanny Night Cafe International. 7 p.m. free

John Lee Hooker, Jr. Biscuits & Blues. 8 & 10 p.m. $28

Meditenza di Medleo Italian folk music with Sean Wiginave. Caffe Trieste. 10:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. free

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Symphony presents Bach and Mendelssohn András Schiff conducts Fingal's Cave, Keyboard Concerto No. 1 and 7, and Symphony No. 4 Italian. Davies Symphony Hall. 8 p.m. $37-$145

SF Chamber ensemble performs [illegible] with works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Jean François [illegible] Couperin, and Maurice Ravel. [illegible] Theatre. 8 p.m. free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Ana-Mandara Trio live jazz. Ana Mandara. 6-8:30 p.m. free

Eddie Levert Yoshi's San Francisco. 8 & 10 p.m. $35-$48

Forever Vanities Revue DNA Lounge. 8 p.m. $10-$60

Joe Sawyer in the Dungeon Yoshi's San Francisco. 8:30-10 p.m.

[illegible] Rose Hall multimedia [illegible] review. [illegible]. 3 p.m. $20

Rock & Pop

Dell 33 with Pablo Special. Café du Nord. 7 p.m. $20

Forever on Fate with City of Rhythms and Tomahawk. [illegible] of the Hill. 8 p.m. $10

Batman Batman with Eddie Gray and Jeff [illegible]. Hotel Utah. 8 p.m. $10

Dark Star Orchestra The Fillmore. 8 p.m. $30

Music Ethel and Ethan C with Peter Chung. Great American Music Hall. 8 p.m. $31

Dreamdate with Sort of Mangos, [illegible], and Halong Bay. [illegible] Tavern. 9 p.m. $8

Electric Funeral [illegible] Bar & Grill. 10 p.m. $5

Gaelic Storm Slim's. 8 p.m. $17-$20

KoTTa Kats with The Silver [illegible], Rockit-star Rockership. Thee Parkside. 8 p.m. $10

Steady Star with Glitter Wizard, Juju, Al Lover and The Helens, and a DJ set by Al Lover. Rock & Mortar Music Hall. 8 p.m. $10-$15

Sweet Candies with Pics of Light and Honetick. Benefit for [illegible]. Thee Parkside. 4 p.m. free

Treasure Island Music Festival with Girl Talk, SBTRKT, Porter Robinson, Public Enemy, [illegible], The Coup, [illegible]. Treasure Island. $79 per day or $139.50 for both days.

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] with Five Knives, The Independents. 10 p.m. $20

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaetón

Non Stop Bhangra Public Works. 9 p.m. $10-$15

SUNDAY 14

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

American Unplugged with Ashling, [illegible]. 5 p.m. free

Dottie Music Actual Cafe. 8 p.m. free

[illegible] Folks with Ron [illegible] and Jerry Scheleman. Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse. 8 p.m. $22.50-$24.50

Sunday Bhangra Blues with [illegible]. Caffe Mediterraneum. 10 a.m. free

Gospel & Vocal

ensemble Trio Piedmont Piano Company. 4 p.m. $15

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Ron [illegible] Trio Jazzschool. 4:30 p.m., $12-$18

Ed Mangers [illegible]-inspired piano improvisation. [illegible] Gypsy Café. 12:30 p.m., free

Jazz and R&B Night Dorsey's Locker. 8-10 p.m. free

Ron [illegible] Jazz Quartet [illegible] & contemporary jazz. Coffee Mill. 3-6 p.m., free

John Scholl Actual Cafe. 5 p.m. free

Lao Wong Ensemble High Street Station Cafe. 3 p.m. $5-$10

Ron Randy Moore Trio Hack's Lounge. 6:30-10 p.m. free

Sunday Jazz Evening with [illegible] Music's [illegible] & [illegible] 10th Street Gallery. 7 p.m. $10

Kids

The Hipwaders Ashkenaz. 3-4:30 p.m. $4-$6

Rock & Pop

Camille Rose Republic Music and Wine. 3 p.m. free

The Hobo-Gobbelins [illegible]. 7:30 p.m. free

Hail with Sinthe, Amarok, and Bruxers. [illegible] High Club. 8 p.m. $TBA

[illegible] with Snag, They Are All Dead, [illegible], and Your Enemy. 924 Gilman. 8 p.m. $7

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Bettye LaVette Yoshi's Oakland. 7 p.m. $30

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaetón

Domingo de Rumba Afro-Cuban rumba percussion & dance party. Cafe Valparaiso. 3:30-6:30 p.m. free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Billy Joe Shaver with David Jacobs-Strain. Great American Music Hall. 8 p.m. $22

Tony [illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House. 9 p.m. free

Two-Tone Steiny Biscuits & Blues. 7 & 9 p.m. $18

Woody Pines [illegible]. 8 p.m. $4-$10

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LES GWAN JUPONS
SWEETFOOT & THE ISLAND MACHINE

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MAMADOU & VANESSA
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Master kora player

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OCTOBER 16 • REGENCY BALLROOM SOLD OUT!

JANE'S ADDICTION
THENEWNO2
OCTOBER [illegible]

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OCTOBER 27

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[illegible] DJ Delon [illegible]

KAT 010
FRI 10/12
[illegible]

LOVESEAT
[illegible] Keyboards/Bass/Drums trio, LOVESEAT [illegible]

PARK ST TRIO
SAT 10/13
[illegible] Park St. Trio [illegible] original, melodic jazz. [illegible]

PICKS

Dawn Penn

Dawn Penn is one of the unsung pioneers of the rock steady sound and one of the first female singers to hit the charts in Jamaica. She was still in high school when she cut her most famous hit, "You Don't Love Me (No, No, No)," for the Studio One record label with the backing of the Soul Vendors — even though she was studying classical music at the time. But she dropped out of the music business until 1994, when famed reggae dancehall production duo Steely and Clevie produced a modern version of the tune. It was a hit again and inspired Penn to return to performing. She created her own label and released two albums, *Never Hustle the Music* (2004) and *City Life* (2011). Penn will be flying in from her London home for this not-to-be-missed engagement at The Uptown (1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland) on Friday, October 12. Franco Nero, a local band that recreates the feel of early ska, will back Penn and open the show with its tasty original [illegible] $17.50, $20. UptownNightClub.com — *J. poet*

Dawn Penn

Woods

Joe Bataan

African American/Filipino musician Joe Bataan is known as the King of Latin Soul, though the title is contentious. Nuyorican artist Joey Pastrana alluded to the name in a 1967 song of the same title (sample lyrics: *Everybody knows I'm the king of Latin soul!*). Bataan's official biography claims Latin soul artists existed before Bataan, but they (like Pastrana) were actually boogaloo artists, playing a blend of R&B, soul, and Latin. Which, on paper sounds a lot like Latin soul, though Bataan wants the distinction to be made. His music is nonetheless informed by boogaloo and doo-wop and by having grown up in Spanish Harlem, where as a youth he ran with a Puerto Rican gang until he landed in jail. Less than a year after his release, he was playing and recording. Singing in Spanish and English, Bataan gets soulful and funky on Seventies disco number "Mestizo," and weary and weathered on ballad "Castle on a Hill." Bataan performs at Yoshi's Oakland (510 Embarcadero West, Oakland) on Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 p.m., $35, $40. Yoshis.com — *Loretta Cruz*

Woods

In a sea of psych-rock bands that sound alike, Brooklyn's Woods stands out. There is some of what you'd expect, warm folk harmonies, jangly guitars, and wall-of-sound sonic builds; but there's also Jeremy Earl's distinct, falsetto voice, unusual arrangements, and subtle lo-fi noise. Now on tour in support of its recently released fifth album, *Bend Beyond*, Woods has amassed a solid collection of three-minute pop songs and long dramatic jams. But its music gels best live, when the band fully unravels yet remains tight and sensible. Many psych rock bands can come off as self indulgent when they try to do the same thing, but in Woods' case, there's always a sense of purpose, even in the band's most spontaneous and spun-out moment. It knows when to reel it back in. Woods performs at The New Parish (579 18th St., Oakland) on Tuesday, Oct. 16, 9 p.m., $12, $15. TheNewParish.com — *Whitney Phaneuf*

C&C

Classical & Opera

The Capuleti and the Montagues New production of the *Romeo and Juliet* adaptation, with music by Vincenzo Bellini. [illegible] War Memorial Opera House, 2 p.m., $27-$340.

Michael Mauter [illegible] for Sunday champagne brunch. [illegible] 11 a.m., 1 p.m., $45-75 for brunch plus [illegible]

SF Performances [illegible] Quartet Herbst Theatre, 7 p.m., $35-$80.

SF Symphony performs a Chamber Music Concert Davies Symphony Hall, 2 p.m., $30.

[illegible] Harp Trio St. Mary's Cathedral, 3:30 p.m., $10-$20.

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible] with Future Perfect & rotating guests. 1508 [illegible] 11 a.m. & 1 p.m., $20, includes brunch.

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

SF Fillmore [illegible] Jazz Fest [illegible]

[illegible] Francisco, 2 p.m., $35.

[illegible] featuring Andrew Speight, Sam Grahe-Heintz, & Mark Gilbreath. [illegible] 4:30-6:30 p.m., $5.

Rock & Pop

Big Kids with Hop Along, Wild Moth, and [illegible] Thee Parkside, 8 p.m., $6.

Elliott Schneider [illegible] Cafe du Nord, 7:30 p.m., $12.

[illegible]

Pure Cane [illegible]

The Silver Threads Thee Parkside, 4 p.m., free.

Jason Bonham's Led Zeppelin Experience The Warfield, 8 p.m., $29.50-$47.50.

Treasure Island Music Festival With The xx, [illegible] Treasure Island, [illegible] per day or $138.50 for both days.

Xavier Rudd The Fillmore, 8 p.m., $25.

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Danilo Pérez Trio With a pre-concert talk starting at 6 p.m. San Francisco Conservatory of Music, 7 p.m., $25-$40.

[illegible]

Theater, 7 p.m., $20, $25.

MONDAY 15

EAST BAY

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Trio Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $15.

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Master Congolese drummer Workshop [illegible] performing arts company [illegible] the Congo and renowned international [illegible] Part of "Teaching the Master" Congo Week. [illegible] Center for the Arts, 6-7:30 p.m., $20.

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Amnesia, 8 p.m., free.

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco, 8

p.m. $30
Le Jazz Hot La Cultural. 7 p.m. free

Rock & Pop

Eric Hutchinson with Jessie Payo. Great American Music Hall. 8 p.m., $25
Molly Gilmore with Carl LeBlanc and Wild Birds. Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $5-$8
The Sheepdogs with The Black Joe Revolution. Rickshaw Stop, 7:30 p.m., $15

TUESDAY 16

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Sliced Hardy Peter's Restaurant, 7:30-9 p.m. free
Woods with White Fence. The New Parish. 9 p.m. $12-$15

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Nik Bartsch's Ronin Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m. $25
Rod Dibble Dibble jazz with guest cabaret singers. The Alley. 9 p.m. free
Sweet Hollywaiian with Leftover Dreams. Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse. 8:00

p.m. $21.50-$32.50
The Wynton Marsalis Octet: Sweet Thunder A new reorchestration of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn's 1957 tribute to Shakespeare. Zellerbach Hall. 8 p.m., $30-$95
Wonderfully Honey White Barbeque Show Eli's Mile High Club, 8 p.m. $8/$4

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Innerspace Jupiter. 9 p.m. free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Toe Foo's 6th Swamp Boogie, Ashkenaz. 9:30 p.m. $10

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Amos Gibble Pianos & Blues, 8 p.m. $30-$35

Classical & Opera

The Capulets and the Montagues New production of the *Romeo and Juliet* adaptation, with music by Vincenzo Bellini, book by Felice Romani, and directed by Vincent Boussard. War Memorial Opera House. 8 p.m. $27-$340

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Rock & Pop

Aloha Screwdriver The Knockout. 9 p.m. $6
Bingo a Lovecraft Park Chalet Brewery. 6:30 p.m. free
Enthusiast with Dan Aubrey and Pure Bathing Culture. [illegible], 8 p.m., $10-$12
Sasha President with Gold Blue Dust Green and Desert Noises. Fever Festival. Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $5
Rollboard with Burning Monk, Neetsie. Tygers, 8:30 p.m. $8
The Dingo Soda with Buckey and Pop Sect. Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 9 p.m. $7
Wild Spirit with Ugly Whiskey, DJ XL, and Dinners. Bottom of the Hill, 8:30 p.m. $8

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Dr. Mojo Boom Boom Room. 9 p.m., free
Nowhere Lasers with Alb-Soul Jay Reds.

Bradley and Fly Union. The Warfield, 8 p.m. $28.50, $30.50

WEDNESDAY 17

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

Kelly Joe Phelps Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse. 8 p.m. $19.50, $22.50
Whiskey Nowhere Albatross Pub, 8 p.m. free

Classical & Opera

Hand the Blues with Impossible Bird. La Peña Cultural Center. 7 p.m. sliding scale

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Bob Enos & the Sound Unit Rustler's Steakhouse. 6:30 p.m. free
Live Jazz Townhouse Bar & Grill. 7:30 p.m. free
Rod Dibble Jersey jazz with guest cabaret singers. The Alley. 9 p.m., free
Prestidoot Boobs Burlesque cabaret variety show. The Rite Parish. 8 p.m. $7
Kyoto Kiss Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m. $26-$30

Rock & Pop

Prophetet with Coast Jumper, Lenin's Nouse and The Nilsbyrd. Part of KALX's Pig Tilt, weekly live showcase. The Uptown. 9 p.m., free
Stu Allen with Mars Hotel. Ashkenaz, 8 p.m. $12

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Caribbean Night with Reggae Flash and DJ Mandrik. Dorsey's Locker. 8-11 p.m. free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Bob Dylan and the Band with Mark Knopfler. Bill Graham Civic Auditorium. 7:30 p.m. $59.50-$125
Radney Foster with The Country Mourns and Jason Buell. Café du Nord. 8 p.m. $15
Bonell Holt Biscuits & Blues. 8 & 10 p.m. $15
The Gatten with Reed McGraw and Mandy Fer. Hotel Utah. 8 p.m. $10

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

ClinkDinkClink with Gaucho and Eric Garrano's Jazz Session. Amnesia. 7 p.m. free

Maurice Gaskin playing cocktail jazz piano. Top of the Mark. 8:30-11:30 p.m. $5

Rock & Pop

First Aid Kit with First Aid Kit and Dylan LeBlanc. The Fillmore. 8 p.m., $22.50
Mikkie Brandy with Headliners and James Cavern. Brick & Mortar Music Hall. 9:30 p.m. $13-$17
Monet Otas with Deadones and Ashburner. Hemlock Tavern. 9:30 p.m. $8
The Dust Hawkers with Goodbye and another guest TBA. Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $8
Parked Bathroom with Dusk Heckers and Hell Rakers. Elbo Room. 9 p.m. $8
Sonny Landreth with Bonny Cliff Band. Great American Music Hall. 8 p.m., $22

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Soul Train Revival with Zach McCarter & The Revival Band. Boom Boom Room. 9:30 p.m. $8

Submissions for music listings should be emailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor East Bay Express, 620 3rd St. Oakland CA 94607. Deadline is fourteen days prior to the event date.

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DJ & DANCE

EAST BAY

THURSDAY 11

Body Language w/ [illegible] Aene and GuruG spinning '80s and '90s funk, pop, R&B and hip-hop. Lola's Taproom & Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Club Fever w/ Sauce Dem [illegible] spinning reggae & dancehall. Shashamane Restaurant. 10 p.m. free

Gumbo Diner w/ DJs Fool Karlo and Chris Fox. Shattuck Down Low. 9 p.m., free

Mad Love Thursdays Ruby's. 10 p.m. free

DJ Trick spinning lounge. Lost Weekend Lounge. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. free

Mo Job w/ DJs Pele China & Sans Pants. The Mission Lounge. 10 p.m. free

No Requests [illegible] **Party w/ DJ M.E.M** The Layover. 10 p.m. free

Riff Raff indie pop, mash-ups, new wave. Ruby's. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. free

Salty Dogs w/ DJ P.Sauage and M.Wild. The Layover. 9:30 p.m., free

Tasty House night w/ DJ Mo Jourtec spinning hip-hop & R&B. Club 21, 9 p.m., $12-$15

Tempete w/ DJ Matthew Bean spinning global house [illegible] Vilain [illegible] 11 p.m.-midnight. free

Ultra Dance DJs Fuse, Saba One, and Mike Mare play Roots Inrest dance reggae. Somar Bar & Lounge. 9 p.m., free

Uplift Thursdays w/ DJ Ras Ro and guests spinning roots reggae and dancehall. Continental Club. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. $5

Ghetto Gumbo Sessions featuring DJs Carlos Mena and Cool. Sanch and Bar. 9 p.m. free

FRIDAY 12

Club 21 w/ [illegible] spinning Latin House. Club 21. 9 p.m. $8-$15

Decibels: Thank F opening w/ Free Runben Sarg, and Fiist spinning bass heavy electro. Shattuck Down Low. 9 p.m., free

DJ Half spinning '90s '80s music and hip-hop. White Horse Inn. 9 p.m. free

DJ Night DJs spinning funk/disco, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant. 9:30 p.m. free

DJ Whiit Mape Oakland Ruckit Happy Hour. Somar Bar & Lounge. 5 p.m., free

Evolve DJs spin house and dance, Era Art Bar and Lounge. 10 p.m.-3:30 a.m. $10

Fantastic Fridays w/ The Bayan City DJs spinning urban classics and top 40. Dragon Rouge. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. free

The Good Life DJ Spor & More from Oakland Fadeaz and Mow Kang from 4onefunk w/ early warm-up set from Lost Tones spinning hip-hop, dancehall and more. Lulu's Taproom & Lounge. 10 p.m. $5 before 11 p.m. $10 after

Happy Drunx w/ DJ Gottino Grazie spinning punk, rock, indie, & noise rock. [illegible] Lounge. 6-10 p.m. free

Hip-Hop House Shock w/ Naked DJ. Club 1220. 9 p.m. $6

It's Vinyly Friday! w/ DJ Beddy Rho. The Layover. 6 p.m. free

Latin Explosion DJ Jorge Eclipse spins cumbia, salsa, merengue [illegible] Spanish pop & metal. Bench and Bar. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. $6-$15

Massive weekly leftfield DJ series. Between Music. 6-9 p.m., free

Old-School hip-hop and funk. Blues. 9 p.m. free

Quinta Night w/ DJ Kaelon spinning reggae, soca, salsa, & R&B. Fonda Paradise Club. 10 p.m. ladies free before 11:30 p.m.

Polygonaric! DJs ambiduo, danfaque, and MeshMaat spin a multi-genric exploration of musical movement. Lulu's Taproom & Lounge. 9 p.m., free

Retro-Deluxe Classic street night '70s pop night. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Salty Fridays DJ Lash & Fat and spin R&B & soul. Ramsell's Caarvtvoi. 9 p.m., $5

Turn It Up w/ Mr. Lucky spinning hip-hop, reggae, house, Latin funk, R&B and more. The Layover. 10 p.m.-2 a.m., free

Weekend Love Era Art Bar and Lounge. 9 p.m. $10

World Beat Fridays featuring DJ Tropic spinning jabwakan, soca, samba, salsa, merengue, dancehall reggae, bhangra, Arabic music, & more. Conga Lounge. 10 p.m.

SATURDAY 13

All Precautions & Hoedighe DJs spinning R&B & hip-hop. Fuxes. 10 p.m., free

The Drum Yard hosted by Sean Kennedy. Moses Music. 2 p.m. free

Club Impulse w/ DJs Spor and Lifeline playing '80s new wave music and videos. White Horse Inn. 10:30 p.m. $6

Club Skanked w/ DJ Rudo and reggae spinning hip-hop & R&B. Ruck'a and free. 9 p.m. $5 before 11 p.m.

Impulse Saturdays followed by hip-hop & house at midnight. Club 1220. 9:30 p.m.-midnight. $5

Dancehall Saturdays w/ Ashan Bass spinning reggae, dancehall, & hip-hop. The Avenue. 9 p.m. free

Onechop Lady Ryse Bossa Volente. 9:30 p.m. $5

"The Unspoiled Side of Soul" soulful dance music w/a rotating lineup of DJs. La Estrellita Cafe. 9:30 p.m. free

DJ Night live spinning dancehall, pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant. 9:30 p.m. free

Molla Day with [illegible] and [illegible] spinning electronica, indie, brown and hip-hop. The Uptown. 9 p.m. $5

La Bota Loca Latino cowboy night w/ DJs spinning salsa, norteño & reggae plus live go-go vaqueros. Club 21. 9 p.m. $6-$15

Magic Milk Cookies DJ Rovkit & guests spin genre-surfing extravaganza. Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Reggae Ladies: Latin Night DJ Tropic spins salsa, merengue, cumbia, vallenato, reggaeton, reggae en español, & and more. Conga Lounge. 10 p.m. free

Reggae Gold with DJs Beady Rain, Pele Mas, and DJ Veyn. The New Parish. $8. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

Sonvivo Saturdays rotating DJs spin classic hip-hop, funk, soul, and world flavors. Lulu's Taproom & Lounge. 10 p.m., $5 before 11 p.m. $10 after

Soul Knockout w/ DJs Hypnomoods & Hot Gats spinning soul, funk, & boogie. The Infrared Lounge. 10 p.m. free

Thump w/ DJ Kerani spinning mashups, funk, house, and soul. Sanch Bar & Lounge. 9 p.m. $5

Trouble Pop Year Anniversary with DJ Alpo. Era Art Bar and Lounge. 9 p.m., $10

Weight w/ Big Pimpin Crew DJ Dennis, Radcliff and Selecta Loc spinning hip-hop, dancehall, '90s R&B, Moombah, Balkan, and more. The Layover. 9 p.m., free

SUNDAY 14

The Ascent w/ Oakland natives Kev Choice and [illegible] Sharp. Era Art Bar and Lounge. 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. free

Dipped w/ The Rockit City DJs featuring Mark Maiden, Eric Rebo, Ivan Domingue, Type One, and [illegible] spinning classic R&B and soul. Dragon Rouge. 2-8 p.m. free

DJ Beady Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Sheffield Sunday Rent Party w/ DJ [illegible] spinning house, [illegible] White Horse Inn. 5-10 p.m., free

King of Kings DJs Ice Pele and Smoke One spin roots, rock, and reggae. Shattuck Down Low. 11 p.m. $10

Uptic Fee's This Sundays DJs spin ska exclusively & roots reggae. The Hotsy Totsy Club. 7 p.m. free

MONDAY 15

EAST BAY

Caribbean Nights w/ DJs Bang and Latin Naxmi spinning soca, reggae, Latin, and hip-hop. Somar Bar & Lounge. 10 p.m. free

Soul Selector w/ DJ Flood. Bossa Matteva. 9 p.m. free

Three Day Weekend DJ Pepsiok Azlan spins local favorites. Lulu's Taproom & Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Underground Lounge psyche '60s & some '70s magic. Radio. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. free

TUESDAY 16

Country Music Night plus line dancing. Club 1220. 8 p.m. free

DJ Night DJs spinning dancehall, pop, mind-blowing rock, & urban hip-hop. Kip's Restaurant. 9:30 p.m. free

DJ Wasty spinning punk. Lost Weekend Lounge. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. free

Funky Sharfline w/ DJ Selecta 3C spinning funk, reggae, afrobeat, dancehall, Goombeat, dirty south, glitch, '90s hip-hop, baile, and dub. The Layover. 10 p.m., free

Soul Pysh DJ Juan G and hip-hop guests spinning reggae, dancehall, and African rhythms. Lulu's Taproom & Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Stay Punk! w/ DJ Matthew spinning indie punk, hardcore, & metal. The Mission Lounge. 10 p.m. free

WEDNESDAY 17

The Set w/ [illegible] and special guests. Lulu's Taproom & Lounge. 9 p.m. free

The Jump Off: Hump Day Hip-Hop w/ live spinning hip-hop. Club 21. 9 p.m. $6-$15

Smoothie Sandwich w/ DJ Foo Bug. The Layover. 6 p.m. free

Persuasion Jam sunday night w/ host Violeta. Bench and Bar. 9 p.m., $6-$15

Bones resident DJs Soul Preben and Layla and special reggae spin hip-hop, disco house, broken beat, [illegible] dancehall, reggae, and Brazilian rhythms. Somar Bar & Lounge. 9 p.m. free

Trainwreck! DJ Terrible Tommy spins everything from doo wop to punk rock from the '50s through the '90s. Merchant's Saloon. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. free

PICK

Jamie xx

Chillout-pop trio The xx headline Treasure Island Sunday night and immediately after its set, drummer Jamie Smith (aka Jamie xx) will rush to Public Works (161 Erie St., San Francisco) where he'll headline the after-party. In his early twenties, Jamie xx already has a Mercury Prize to his band's credit and serious credibility as a DJ. He's responsible for The xx's dark, minimal percussion, a continuation of England's uptake new-wave sound. As DJ Jamie xx, he ups the tempo and thickens the bass lines. His first single, "Far Nearer/Beat For," demonstrated his ability to produce club tracks. But it was his remix of "NY Is Killing Me" by the late musician and poet Gil Scott-Heron, that established him as more than just another post-dubstep DJ. Jamie xx went on to remix Scott-Heron's entire last album, *I'm New Here*. Expect more obscure references to American soul and avant-garde at his Public Works set, where he'll be joined by Manchester's dark and emotive Holy Other, who makes his San Francisco debut, plus John Talabot and [illegible] DJs on Sunday, Oct. 14. 9 p.m., $25. PublicSF.com
— *Whitney Phaneuf*

SAVAGE LOVE

GETTIN' THORNY

Views on abortion and violent porn

By Dan Savage

I recently discovered that my boyfriend of seven months and I have opposing viewpoints on the whole "life begins at conception" issue. He's not a crazy zealot, but he is strongly against abortion. And while he won't go so far as to say abortion should be banned, he does believe in the whole "personhood" concept, i.e., that a fetus — from the moment of conception — is a person with the same rights as any other person. This shocked me and I almost broke up with him. He says that disagreeing on issues is fine in a relationship, but I am not so sure. I find his position abhorrent, one that ignores hundreds of real-life factors, and it opens the door for a litany of laws regulating my body. He's a sweet, loving guy and progressive in every other way. But I'm suddenly unsure about a relationship I viewed as totally solid just a few days ago. I'm not sure if this should be a deal-breaker or if this is just a disagreement. Please advise.

Love Is Finding Errors

Your boyfriend won't go so far as to say abortion should be banned — or maybe he saw the shocked look on your face and realized that going so far as to say abortion should be banned to you would be a big mistake.

Here's a good way to find out if your boyfriend is serious about not wanting to impose his personal beliefs on others or whether he's an anti-choice zealot: Tell him you're pregnant.

Some men blithely assume anti-choice positions because "personhood" and other anti-choice arguments appeal to them in the abstract and hey, it's not like their bodies or their futures are on the line, right? Most anti-choice-in-the-abstract men come to a very different conclusion about the importance of access to safe and legal abortion when an unplanned pregnancy impacts them directly.

So tell your boyfriend you're pregnant. You can present it as a thought experiment if you prefer, LIFE, but I think you should flat-out lie to him. Then, once the news sinks in, ask him if he's ready to provide financial support for a child and/or make regular monthly child support payments directly to you. Ask him if he's ready for the responsibilities (and the grind) of full- or even part-time parenting. Ask him if he knows you well enough — just seven short months into this relationship — to make the kind of lifetime commitment that scrambling your DNA together entails. Because even if you don't get married, even if you don't live together and raise this child together, you two will be stuck with each other for the rest of your lives if you have the baby.

I'm guessing his answers will be "no, no, and no" and he'll offer to drive you to the nearest abortion clinic himself.

As for whether you should date someone who is anti-choice, well, women have to be in control of their own bodies — and when and whether they reproduce — in order to be truly equal. I don't think I could date someone who didn't see me as his equal or who believed that the state should regulate my sexual or reproductive choices. So yeah, this shit would be a deal-breaker for me, LIFE, if I had a vagina.

Actually, this is a deal-breaker for me, even though I don't have a vagina. I wouldn't date a dude who was anti-choice. Any gay man who can't see the connection between a woman's right to have children when she chooses and his right to love and marry the person he chooses is an idiot. And I don't date idiots.

If your hypothetical pregnancy doesn't shock your boyfriend out of his idiocy, LIFE, you'll have to ask yourself if you can continue dating this idiot.

I found porn on my kid's computer and I talked to him about being careful about spyware, the difference between actual intimacy and objectification, and that kind of thing. I don't have a problem with a fifteen-year-old boy looking at porn — so long as he's discreet and doesn't do it to excess. But what my kid was looking at was standard stuff, i.e., garden-variety M/F porn and a touch of M/M porn. But a friend found a stash of really kinky violence-against-women stuff on her kid's computer. I'm thinking a parent can't let that go as easily. She's about to confront her kid. I don't think you can help her with what to say, since she'll already have said something, but what would you have advised her to say?

My Friend's Kinky Son

You meet two kinds of people at kink events and in kink spaces: people who've always known they were kinky — people who were jerking off to kinky fantasies and/or porn long before they were fifteen — and people who got into kink after falling in love with someone who was kinky. Your friend's son sounds like one of the former.

It's important for your friend to bear in mind that her son, if he is indeed kinky, sought out kinky porn. Kinky porn didn't make him kinky. And being shamed by his mother for his porn preferences — or his kinks — isn't going to unmake his kinks.

That said, MFKS, your friend should talk with her son about the difference between porn and real sex — kinky or vanilla — and the difference between erotic power exchange and violence. She should also talk to him about safety and misogyny, and she should encourage him to be thoughtful about his sexuality. And most importantly, MFKS, she should emphasize the importance of meaningful and informed CONSENT.

Your friend's son isn't going to want to dialogue with his mom about his porn stash or his kinks, MFKS, so she should go in prepared to monologue at him.

Finally, there's a chance that your friend's son isn't kinky and was just looking for the most appalling shit he could find on the internet. Mom should acknowledge that as a possibility—and her son, even if he is kinky, is likely to seize on that excuse. If he does claim that he was just looking for shocking video clips, she should say: "I believe you. But there's a small chance that you're saying that because you think it's what I want to hear. So I'm going to say everything I wanted to say about safety, misogyny, and consent just in case. And all of it applies to vanilla sex, too." ●

Find the *Savage Lovecast* (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at TheStranger.com/savage
mail@savagelove.net

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I LATELY

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DAVID JACOBS-STRAIN

MON OCT 15 · DOORS 7, SHOW 8
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ALMOST SOLO TOUR
JESSIE PAYO

WED OCT 17 · DOORS 7:30, SHOW 8
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DANNY CLICK

THUR OCT 18 · DOORS 7, SHOW 8
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LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG12[illegible]
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
[illegible] Street
[illegible], CA 94612
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Maria Teresa Posada filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: Present Name: MARIA [illegible] to Proposed Name: MARIA TERESA ALBERT
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
NOTICE OF HEARING:
[illegible] 21, 2012 at 9:30 [illegible], Dept. 31, at 201 [illegible] Oakland
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California.
Date: [illegible] 2012
Signed: C. Don Clay
Judge of the Superior Court
[illegible], 10/3, [illegible] 2012

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG12[illegible]
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
[illegible] Street
[illegible], CA 94612
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner Hollis Ashley filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: Present Name: ELIZABETH ASHLEY [illegible] to Proposed Name: HOLLY [illegible]
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
NOTICE OF HEARING:
[illegible], 2013 at 8:30 A.M., Dept. 31, at 201 13th St., Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California.
Date: September 14, 2012
Signed: C. Don Clay
Judge of the Superior Court
9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17/2012

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: RG12[illegible]
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Susan Lee Swan filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: Present Name: SUSAN LEE SWAN to Proposed Name: [illegible]
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
NOTICE OF HEARING:
January 11, 2013 at 8:30 A.M., in Dept. 31, at 201 13th St., 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA 94612
A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California.
Date: September 20, 2012
Signed: C. Don Clay
Judge of the Superior Court
9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17/2012

Statement of Abandonment of Use of Fictitious Business Name File # 433913[illegible]
The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: **Key Lime Pie Tomando**
Street Address: 1737 10th St., Berkeley, CA 94710. The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on 12/24/2008 in the County of Alameda. Mailing Address: same as above, is hereby registered by the following owner: Ten Studios Inc., 1737 10th St., Berkeley, CA 94710. This business was conducted by a Corporation in CA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible]/2012
Key Lime Pie Tomando
9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3/2012

PETS/PET SUPPLIES

Quincy - [illegible] Dog
Quincy is a beautiful 7 y.o. Gentle [illegible]. House-broken, crate-trained, good w/ [illegible], [illegible]. [illegible] Quincy is a new home only because we are welcoming a baby [illegible]. We have loved him for 8 years. Quincy is energetic and [illegible], loves playing [illegible] and [illegible] running [illegible]. He has always received great vet care and is in [illegible] health and [illegible]. Check out 1 video of Quincy: http://[illegible]. To meet Quincy, contact [illegible] (510) [illegible]

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Notice of Intent to Circulate Petition

Notice is hereby given by the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the City of Emeryville for the purpose of qualifying a ballot measure. A statement of the reasons of the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

Democracy, in our representative form of government, depends on the public's ability to understand the city government's proposed actions and communicate its concerns to its elected and appointed representatives. Those representatives must have an adequate opportunity to consider those concerns.

The purpose of this ordinance is to modify certain existing practices, and to adopt new practices, to provide greater public notice whenever the City is considering taking any action that would impact an Emeryville resident, property, or business owner.

This ordinance increases the transparency of Emeryville City Government by requiring useful information to be provided to the public in a timely and continuing manner. It also requires adequate records of all City meetings be prepared, maintained and made available to the public as appropriate.

This ordinance requires the City to provide a minimum of TEN days advance public notice prior to taking action on any agenda item by any legislative body in the City of Emeryville.

Ken Bukowski, 3800 Boyle Street, Emeryville CA, 94608

An Initiative Measure to Require the City of Emeryville to Comply with Existing Provisions of State Law, To Continue And Modify Existing City Practices, And Implement New Measures Regarding Public Meetings and Public Information

This measure would require the City of Emeryville to continue to comply with existing provisions of State law which regulates the conduct of and the right of the public to access documents distributed in connection with public meetings.

This measure would require the City to continue certain existing practices. As an example the measure requires the City's technology to provide a form to request email notices of public meetings, to videorecord all public meetings of the City Council and Planning Commission or any other event where [illegible] action is taken, and to make available content syndication technology such as RSS.

The measure would require the City to modify existing practices. The City would be required to create and maintain a centralized public information section on its website containing the City's budget, department staffing levels, crime, fire and hazardous materials incidents and number of traffic citations, increases in fees, fines and penalties, renewal in the previous year salaries and benefits of all City employees, voting records of City Council and Planning Commission members, listing of new and changes to existing laws and regulations enacted in previous year and archive of video recordings of City Council and Planning Commission meetings and public recordings of all City committee meetings for previous 5 years. Most of this information is already available on the City's website, but not in a centralized location nor compiled as mandated by this measure. The measure also requires the City to provide a complete agenda packet via email to any resident, business or property owner who requests it. The City currently provides email notice of and a link to the agenda packet.

The measure imposes new requirements on the City. The City will be required to provide 15 days advance email notice to all residents and property and business owners who submit their email addresses to receive notice whenever the City is considering taking action that would: 1. levy a new or increase an existing tax or fee on any resident or property or business owner; 2. foreseeably impact the value of a licensed business or real property if the subject of the City action is located within 500 feet of the business or real property; or 3. restrict the operation of any business or use of land which was allowed or in existence prior to the time of the contemplated action.

The measure also requires the City to post public notices on a bulletin board at City Hall in addition to the three public places it currently posts such notices in accordance with state law. Finally, the measure requires the City Council to audio record all attorney-client closed session meetings and maintain those recordings for 5 years. Such recordings would be available by subpoena for lawful investigative purposes.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 12-0059615 Doc ID #0007423173220008N Title Order No. 12-0109247 Investor/Insurer No. 1703507191 APN No. 012-0955-029 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 02/16/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by SILVIA MORENO, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, dated 02/16/2007 and recorded 2/22/2007, as Instrument No. 2007080203, in Book , Page , of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Alameda County, State of California, will sell on 11/05/2012 at 9:00AM, Scottish Rite Center, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA 94612, 3rd Floor Lodge and Banquet Room at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 979 YERBA BUENA AVENUE, EMERYVILLE, CA, 94608. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is $431,496.00. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. If required by the provisions of section 2923.5 of the California Civil Code, the declaration from the mortgagee, beneficiary, or authorized agent is attached to the duly recorded with the appropriate County Recorder's Office. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on a property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 1-800-281-8219 or visit this Internet Web site www.recontrustco.com, using the file number assigned to this case NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. 12-0059615. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. 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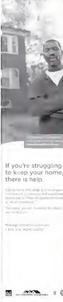

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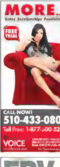

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. 7541[illegible]CA Loan No. [illegible] Title Order No. 12010466[illegible]-CA-MAI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 03-14-2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 10-17-2012 at 12:30 PM, CALIFORNIA RECONVEYANCE COMPANY as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded 03-18-2005, Book N/A, Page N/A, Instrument 2005109147, of official records in the Office of the Recorder of ALAMEDA County, California, executed by: SANG H. PARK, A MARRIED MAN, as Trustor, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. (MERS) ACTING SOLELY AS NOMINEE FOR LENDER GREENPOINT MORTGAGE FUNDING, INC. ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, as Beneficiary, will sell at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Sale will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to the Deed of Trust. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Place of Sale: THE FALLON STREET ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 1225 FALLON STREET, OAKLAND, CA Legal Description: CITY OF EMERYVILLE PARCEL ONE: UNIT 1525, AS SAID UNIT IS SHOWN ON THE CONDOMINIUM PLAN (HEREINAFTER CALLED "THE PLAN") ATTACHED TO THAT CERTAIN "DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS ESTABLISHING A PLAN FOR CONDOMINIUM OWNERSHIP OF PACIFIC PARK PLAZA", RECORDED JULY 12, 1983, SERIES NO. 83-122489, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, AS AMENDED BY INSTRUMENTS RECORDED JULY 18, 1983, AS SERIES NO. 83-126271 AND NOVEMBER 18, 1983, AS SERIES NO. 83-218021, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY (WHICH DECLARATION, AS AMENDED, IS CALLED HEREINAFTER "THE DECLARATION"). PARCEL TWO: AN UNDIVIDED 1/446 PERCENT INTEREST IN AND TO THE "COMMON AREA", AS SUCH COMMON AREA IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THE PARCEL HEREAFTER ENTITLED "COMMON AREA" AND AS SHOWN ON AND DEFINED IN THE PLAN AND THE DECLARATION, EXCEPTING THEREFROM HOWEVER, THE FOLLOWING: (A) ALL UNITS SHOWN ON THE PLAN; (B) EXCLUSIVE EASEMENTS DESIGNATED "RESTRICTED COMMON AREA" ON THE PLAN AND IDENTIFIED THEREON WITH THE LETTER "B", BEING RESERVED FOR USE AS PRIVATE BALCONIES APPURTENANT TO THE UNITS ON THE PLAN TO WHICH SUCH EASEMENTS ADJOIN; (C) EXCLUSIVE EASEMENTS FOR THE USE BY EACH UNIT AS AN APPURTENANCE THERETO, OF ONLY ONE PARKING SPACE LOCATED IN OR ON A MULTI-LEVEL PARKING FACILITY LOCATED WITHIN THE COMMON AREA AS SUCH EASEMENTS ARE PROVIDED FOR, AT, AND SUBJECT TO ALL PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VII PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE DECLARATION; (D) EASEMENTS IN FAVOR OF ALL UNITS OVER ALL ADJOINING UNITS AND THE COMMON AREA FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCOMMODATING ANY ENCROACHMENT DUE TO ENGINEERING ERRORS IN ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, MOVEMENT, SETTLEMENT OR SHIFTING OF THE BUILDING, OR SIMILAR CAUSE. PARCEL THREE: AN EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT APPURTENANT TO PARCEL ONE HEREINABOVE, FOR THE USE OF ONLY ONE PARKING SPACE LOCATED IN OR ON A MULTI-LEVEL PARKING FACILITY LOCATED WITHIN THE COMMON AREA AS SUCH EASEMENT IS PROVIDED FOR, AT AND SUBJECT TO ALL PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE VII PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE DECLARATION. PARCEL FOUR: AN EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT APPURTENANT TO PARCEL ONE HEREINABOVE, TO USE AS A PRIVATE BALCONY OR BALCONIES THAT OR THOSE RESTRICTED COMMON AREA OR AREAS DESIGNATED WITH THE LETTER "B" ON THE PLAN AND SHOWN THEREON TO ADJOIN THE UNIT DESCRIBED IN SAID PARCEL ONE. "COMMON AREA" REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COMPRISED OF THE FIVE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PARCELS: PARCEL A: LOTS 1 AND 2, TRACT 4673, FILED JUNE 15, 1981, IN MAP BOOK 127, AT PAGES 70 AND 71, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE WESTERN 30 FEET THEREOF, MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES, AS CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BY DEED RECORDED FEBRUARY 17, 1982, SERIES NO. 82-23459, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY. PARCEL B: EASEMENTS APPURTENANT TO PARCEL A HEREINABOVE AS SET FORTH AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN DIVISION 1 OF THAT CERTAIN GRANT DEED TO TOWER HOUSE ASSOCIATES, A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, DATED OCTOBER 13, 1981 AND RECORDED OCTOBER 14, 1981, AS SERIES NO. 81-174574, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY. EXCEPTING THEREFROM HOWEVER THAT CERTAIN EASEMENT SET FORTH AT DIVISION 1A OF SAID GRANT DEED RECORDED AS SERIES NO. 81-174574 OFFICIAL RECORDS, SUCH EASEMENT HAVING BEEN EXTINGUISHED BY INSTRUMENT RECORDED DECEMBER 6, 1983 AS SERIES NO. 83-[illegible] OFFICIAL RECORDS. PARCEL C: AN ACCESS EASEMENT APPURTENANT TO PARCEL A HEREINABOVE, AS RESERVED IN THE DEED TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RECORDED FEBRUARY 17, 1982, SERIES NO. 82-23459, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: THE EASTERLY 21 FEET OF THE WESTERLY 30 FEET, RIGHT ANGLE MEASUREMENTS, OF LOTS 1 AND 2, TRACT 4673, FILED JUNE 15, 1981, MAP BOOK 127, PAGES 70 AND 71, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS. SAID EASEMENT ABUTTING UPON STATE HIGHWAY NO. 80 RIGHT OF WAY, AND LIMITED VERTICALLY TO 15.5 FEET ABOVE THE PAVEMENT SURFACE CONSTRUCTED OR TO BE CONSTRUCTED. PARCEL D: EXCLUSIVE EASEMENTS APPURTENANT TO PARCEL A HEREINABOVE AND ANY SUBSEQUENT SUBDIVISION OR SUBDIVISIONS THEREOF, FOR THE INGRESS AND EGRESS OF VEHICLES AND PEDESTRIANS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, RECONSTRUCT, REPAIR AND REPLACE ALL IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY AND RELATED TO SUCH RIGHTS OF INGRESS AND EGRESS AND FOR LANDSCAPE PURPOSES, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, RECONSTRUCT, REPAIR AND REPLACE SUCH LANDSCAPING AND ALL NECESSARY AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS THERETO OVER, UNDER, ALONG, ACROSS AND THROUGH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED STRIP OF LAND: A STRIP OF LAND BEING A PORTION OF THE LAND DESCRIBED IN THE DEED TO TOWER HOUSE ASSOCIATES, A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, RECORDED APRIL 5, 1982, SERIES NO. 82-48733, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEING A PORTION OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 1 SOUTH, RANGE 4 WEST, MOUNT DIABLO BASE AND MERIDIAN, AS SHOWN ON MAP NO. 4 OF SALT MARSH AND TIDE LANDS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF LOT 1, AS SHOWN UPON THAT CERTAIN MAP ENTITLED "TRACT NO. 4673", RECORDED ON JUNE 15, 1981 IN BOOK 127 OF MAPS, AT PAGES 70 AND 71, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS; THENCE FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING ALONG THE NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT 1, S 14° 01' 21" E 32.57 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; SAID TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING BEING THE NORTHWESTERN CORNER OF THE PARCEL OF LAND DESCRIBED AS PARCEL ONE WITHIN THE GRANT DEED TO TOWER HOUSE ASSOCIATES, A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, RECORDED ON APRIL 5, 1982 AS SERIES NO. 82-48733, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS; THENCE FROM SAID TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING LEAVING SAID NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF LOT 1, ALONG THE NORTHWESTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LAST MENTIONED PARCEL ONE, N 75° 58' 00" E 121.36 FEET TO THE SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF THE STREET COMMONLY KNOWN AS CHRISTIE STREET AS DESCRIBED WITHIN THE GRANT OF EASEMENT TO THE TOWN OF EMERYVILLE, RECORDED NOVEMBER 1, 1984 IN REEL 1354 OF OFFICIAL RECORDS, IMAGE 338, ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS; THENCE LEAVING SAID NORTHWESTERLY BOUNDARY LINE ALONG SAID LAST MENTIONED SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE, S 14° 01' 00" E 15.00 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE, LEAVING SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE, S 75° 58' 00" W 121.37 FEET TO THE SOUTHWESTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF THE LANDS OF TOWER HOUSE ASSOCIATES (82-48733), BEING THE AFOREMENTIONED NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF SAID LOT 1; THENCE, ALONG SAID LAST MENTIONED NORTHEASTERLY BOUNDARY LINE, N 14° 01' 21" W 15.00 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING. PARCEL E: A PERMANENT NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT APPURTENANT TO PARCEL ONE HEREINABOVE, AND ANY SUBSEQUENT SUBDIVISIONS THEREOF, FOR THE INGRESS AND EGRESS OF PEDESTRIANS AND VEHICLES OVER, ALONG AND ACROSS THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED STRIP OF LAND, AS CREATED IN THAT CERTAIN INSTRUMENT ENTITLED "GRANT OF RECIPROCAL EASEMENTS", DATED NOVEMBER 18, 1983, AND RECORDED DECEMBER 6, 1983, AS SERIES NO. 83-[illegible], OFFICIAL RECORDS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY: A STRIP OF LAND BEING THE WESTERN 30 FEET OF PARCEL 'A', PARCEL MAP [illegible], FILED JULY 19, 1978 IN PARCEL MAP BOOK [illegible], AT PAGE [illegible], ALAMEDA COUNTY RECORDS. Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: $347,573.19 (estimated) Street address and other common designation of the real property: 6363 CHRISTIE AVENUE #1525 EMERYVILLE, CA 94608 APN Number: 049-[illegible] The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". In compliance with California Civil Code 2923.5(c) the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent declares: that it has contacted the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure; or that it has made efforts to contact the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure by one of the following methods: by telephone; by United States mail; either 1st class or certified; by overnight delivery; by personal delivery; by e-mail; by face to face meeting. DATE: 09-26-2012 CALIFORNIA RECONVEYANCE COMPANY, as Trustee REGINA CANTRELL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY California Reconveyance Company 9200 Oakdale Avenue Mail Stop: CA2-4379 Chatsworth, CA 91311 800-892-6902 For Sales Information: www.lpsasap.com or 1-714-730-2727 www.priorityposting.com or 1-714-573-1965 www.auction.com or 1-800-280-2832 CALIFORNIA RECONVEYANCE COMPANY IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, this information can be obtained from one of the following three companies: LPS Agency Sales and Posting at (714) 730-2727 or visit the Internet Web site www.lpsasap.com (Registration required to search for sale information) or Priority Posting and Publishing at (714) 573-1965 or visit the Internet Web site www.priorityposting.com (Click on the link for "Advanced Search" to search for sale information), or auction.com at 1-800-280-2832 or visit the Internet Web site www.auction.com, using the Trustee Sale No. shown above. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. 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